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metroNEWS

Suter sentenced to four months

COURT

'Tragic' event for all involved nears ending

A man who crashed his SUV into an Edmonton restaurant patio, killing a young boy, has been sentenced to four months in jail.

Richard Suter, a 65-year-old retired businessman, had pleaded guilty to failing to provide a breath sample in a death — a relatively new criminal offence that carries a maximum life sentence.

Provincial court Judge Larry Anderson ruled Thursday that witnesses wrongly assumed Suter was drunk after his vehicle plowed into the patio in May 2013.

"As tragic as the consequences have been, this collision was an accident caused by a non-impaired driving error,"

Anderson said.

He said Suter had also been given "ill-informed and bad legal advice" not to give a breath sample that night.

The judge further took into account that Suter and his family have been subject to "extreme vitriol, public scorn and threats ... as well as violent vigilante actions" since the crash.

Police originally charged Suter with impaired driving causing death, as witnesses said he smelled of alcohol, and was stumbling and slurring his words. But court also heard from other witnesses who believed he was sober.

It's beyond insulting. Four months is a joke.
George Mounsef

Suter testified at sentencing that he had three drinks over four hours before the crash, but wasn't drunk.

He said he had been arguing with his wife while parking the SUV. When she asked for a divorce, he mistakenly hit the gas instead of the brake.

Supporters of the boy's family packed the courtroom for the decision, and some shouted at Suter as sheriffs led him away.

"It's beyond insulting," Geo's father, George Mounsef, later said outside court. "Four months is a joke."

The Crown had recommended a three-year prison term. The defence suggested a fine.

Anderson ruled that the gravity of the crime called for some time behind bars.

Suter is also suspended from driving for 30 months upon his release.

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5

WAYS TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER

Christmas is a week away and the holiday spirit is in the air. But eating turkey and receiving gifts is only a small part of the holidays. So let's talk the other part: Giving back. Want to get higher up on Santa's "nice" list but not sure how? Or just want to rock the good-human lifestyle? Here are five ways to spread holiday joy.

Taryn Brandell
Metro | Edmonton



1 Toboggan riding

Is there anything more Canadian, more Edmonton, more Christmas, than a toboggan? Of course not. And is there anything more Edmonton than the toboggan drive the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers has for Syrian refugees? Nope. Best part? On Saturday, you can join with newcomers, riding their new toboggans, at Mill Woods Park, between 1-2 p.m. Think of it as a Canadian Christmas.



2 Anonymous Santa

Run by the staff of 630 CHED and volunteers from the community, the project was created with the mission of ensuring every child receives a toy on Christmas. Donations of either toys or money will be accepted and volunteers are always needed. Check online at santasanonymous.ca.



3 Volunteer as an elf

Any desire of becoming a Hamper Elf? The JCI Holiday Hamper program is still in need of volunteers to help build and deliver hampers to families in need. Hamper elves are given a family to build a hamper that includes ingredients for a holiday meal and gifts for the children. Visit jciedmonton.com to lend a hand.



4 Edmonton Food Bank

The Edmonton Food Bank has once again created the magnificent Candy Cane Lane in the west end of the city. Until Jan. 3, enjoy the lights and unique displays showcasing the magic of the holidays and make sure to bring a donation for the Edmonton Food Bank.



5 Families of Gingerbread

Good Earth Coffeehouse has set a goal to sell 10,000 Gingerbread Families by Dec. 31 and for every one sold, \$1 will be donated to the local Habitat for Humanity. As of Dec. 15, \$6,378 has been raised with just over two weeks to go.

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Kris Wells, director of the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services at the University of Alberta holds a stick wrapped with Pride Tape. ALEX BOYD/METRO

Pride Tape will be a badge of support from the hockey world to LGBTQ youth.

Kris Wells, director of the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services

Social change is the goal

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Pride Tape gets allies playing on same team



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Sometimes social change looks like a roll of rainbow-coloured hockey tape.

"We believe that these six colours can change the hockey

world," says Kris Wells, director of the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services at the University of Alberta.

"Pride Tape will be a badge of support from the hockey world to LGBTQ youth."

The Institute plans to do an initial run of 10,000 rolls that will be given free to local teams across the country. And they've launched a Kickstarter campaign to raise the \$54,000 needed.

They're partnering with Calder Bateman Communications who came up with the idea

of tape. "We're huge, huge, hockey fans, so the last thing we wanted to do was interfere with play," Creative Director Jeff McLean says.

"It's highly visible but it's not getting in the way. But it's also something very personal to the players."

Elliott Tanti is a volunteer with the program who describes himself as a "casual but passionate" player.

Like many Canadians, he grew up playing hockey. He says he jumped at the chance to volunteer because of his

friends and family in the LGBTQ community.

"There was always a subtext to the dressing room and this hyper-masculinity to sports that was always sort of assumed," he says, "I think that's consistent from minor league hockey right up to the pros."

Wells says many LGBTQ youth avoid sports because they don't feel it's a welcoming environment, pointing out that there still aren't any out players in the NHL.

"Change is going to take captains and coaches and com-

munity members stepping forward," he says, "Pride Tape says without having to say the words, that I'm an ally."

The campaign has a powerful ally in Andrew Ference, alternate captain of the Edmonton Oilers, who is featured in a new TV campaign.

"You have to remember that this is an invisible minority so many individuals won't come out until they know it's going to be a safe environment," Wells says, "because the default for too long was that it wasn't going to be safe."

AMBULANCE Province releases standards



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Alberta Health Services announced new ambulance response time targets Thursday, as part of a group of measurements designed to give people more confidence in the system.

As Metro reported Tuesday, the new target for an ambulance's arrival on scene will be 12 minutes in urban areas, 90 per cent of time.

When the city of Edmonton ran the service in 2009, the standard was nine minutes, 90 per cent of the time. Rural communities can expect slower ambulance response times.

Dale Weiss, AHS' northern executive director for emergency medical services, said when the organization first started investigating targets they found different measures existed — and services weren't hitting benchmarks.

"We looked at (targets) in Alberta," he said. "Targets and what they were performing at are two different things."

Weiss said the targets AHS has established are not a reflection of the response times the system was hitting, but instead the result of aspirational goals.

Beyond response time, AHS now plans to publicly report on time taken to dispatch a call, patient satisfaction and time ambulances spend waiting to transfer patients in hospitals.

The new standard for ambulance waits is 90 minutes, 90 per cent of the time. Weiss said that's achievable, but it will take work at every local hospital.



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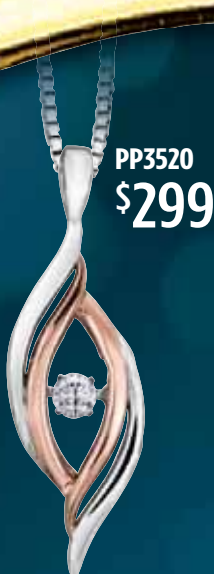
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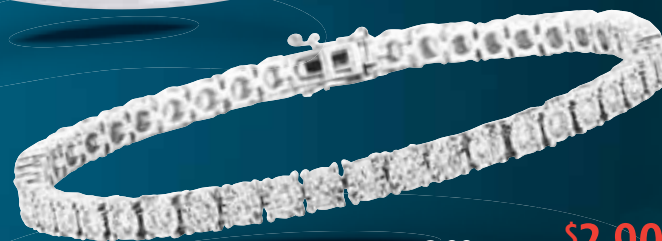


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YOUTH SHELTER

Music store owner fulfils one woman's holiday wish



Andrea Ross
Metro | Edmonton

Scrawled in neat cursive on lined paper, an unidentified young woman staying at an Edmonton youth shelter had a captivating Christmas wish.

Posted on Twitter Tuesday evening by the Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS), the image was one of the "wants and needs" lists the shelter asks their clients to write every year during the holidays.

"Her wants were a violin, violin books, and a case to put the violin in. Her needs were love, written like five times," YESS Supervisor Delalie Mortotsi said.

"I saw that and was like, 'I can't really buy you love, but

I can try to make this other one happen for you.'"

The image was shared dozens of times by community members eager to help find a violin for the 19-year-old woman.

With a budget of only \$50, Mortotsi contacted Bella Music Ltd. owner Jim Doucet to see if he could help out. When she arrived at his west end shop on Wednesday, he had a handcrafted, \$300 violin waiting for her at a special price.

"He wrote \$0 at the end of the invoice," Mortotsi said. "I was like, 'Wow, that's amazing.'"

But making music accessible to everyone isn't new for Doucet, who's been donating violins and instrument parts to music schools and students in Cuba for 10 years.

Last year, he gave nine violins to music students on the Paul Band First Nation.

"I have violins, so it's something I can do," Doucet said.

"If I'm not using them, I mean, what the heck — somebody should be using them. It's a good feeling, and that's what Christmas is all about.

"They don't have to look pretty. Some of these old beaters are actually the best."

Doucet still picked what he described as the nicest violin for the young woman. He found a bow and a hard case, added a block of rosin and a

cleaning cloth and played it himself for 20 minutes just to make sure everything was all right.

Mortotsi won't say much about the violin's recipient to protect her identity. She did say that she first started coming to the youth shelter in the summer, isn't from Canada and played the violin when she was younger.

Mortotsi said she wasn't scheduled to work Christmas day, but will be coming in to see the look on this young woman's face — and those of

“He wrote \$0 at the end of the invoice.”

Delalie Mortotsi



Bella Music Ltd. owner Jim Doucet donated a violin this week for a young client of the Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS) shelter. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

some of the other 300 youth the shelter serves every year — as they open their gifts on

Christmas morning.

"I'm super excited," she said. "Everybody in the com-

munity has been really great with their support. It's been overwhelming."

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EMPLOYMENT

There are bumps, chances: Economist



Tim Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton

Alberta has oil and ATB Financial chief economist Todd Hirsch, and forever, it seems, the two shall be both friend and foe.

Hirsch published a blog earlier this week pointing out the 10 best things about Alberta's economy that weren't related to oil — for brevity, the main ones were green energy, strong universities, the province's mayors and a young, hungry demographic.

But Hirsch doesn't mince words on Alberta's economic state, which is tied to the price of oil.

He's "not optimistic" about it, he said, conceding oil is critical. "I think it's going to be a rough ride."

But Hirsch isn't pessimistic, either.

The reason, he said, is that oil often dominates Alberta's economy, making it near impossible for other sectors to gain a foothold.

For instance, the tech sector keeps showing promise in Alberta, but when oil's hot, it kills economic potential, pulling all people into it, he said.

As Hirsch said, tech startups, "can't hire a receptionist for \$75,000 a year," during the booms.

For that reason, while he sees 2016 as a bumpy road, Hirsch said Alberta can at least continue to diversify during it.

"Now we have the opportunity to perhaps encourage other sectors to reexamine Alberta," he said. "We've got this young, educated population, fantastic infrastructure, great universities and available office space."



Premier Rachel Notley, seen in her office Thursday, says Alberta is in strong shape despite the current value of oil. KEVIN TUONG/METRO

Premier concerned by lost oil revenues

NATURAL RESOURCES

For every dollar below average, the province loses \$170M



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Despite a steep drop in oil prices this year, Premier Rachel Notley believes the province's budget is still in strong shape.

Oil, which was pegged at a

yearly average of \$50 per barrel in the October budget, was trading around \$34 on Thursday and has not consistently traded above \$50 since July.

Every dollar below the average the province lands at the end of the year costs Alberta \$170 million in revenue.

But Notley said she hopes the early highs this year will balance out the recent lows.

"I don't think we are ultimately going to be that far off because the beginning of the year, the price was a lot higher. If you look at the average we are still pretty much on pace," she said.

The NDP projected a



We're working on different job creation incentives.

Rachel Notley

\$6.1-billion deficit in its budget this year, but Finance Minister Joe Ceci said the government would watch oil closely and make adjustments if necessary.

Notley said that remains the plan.

"Obviously, going forward we are going to have to keep

an eye on what happens with the projections and adjust accordingly, but that's not surprising," she said. "Oil goes up and down and in any given day you're going to get two widely different projections."

She said her government also wants to find ways to ease the pain of the oil slide and get Albertans back to work.

"We're working on different job creation incentives. We have significantly upped our capital investment. We're engaging in a number of different economic diversification strategies. We are trying to pull as many levers as we can."

INCOME

Minimum wage hike would cost jobs: CFIB

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business says it has obtained an internal NDP memo suggesting the province knows plans for more increases to the minimum wage could result in "significant job losses."

The CFIB says it obtained a briefing memo from the ministry of labour through a freedom of information request.

CFIB spokesman Richard Truscott says the memo tells a different story than the government has been saying. He says the province has been maintaining that hiking the minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2018 would create jobs, not kill them.

Labour Minister Lori Sigurdson released an emailed statement saying the province's analysis of "the potential impact of this year's increase ... found that there would not be negative economic consequences," adding the government believes those earning the least should be able to take care of their families.

However, Truscott says the internal briefing prepared for Sigurdson ahead of the October increase which took the minimum wage to \$11.20 is less certain.

"At this point it is not fully known what the overall impact of this kind of upwards wage pressure would have on what is still an uncertain economy," says the memo, "but it is reasonable to assume that job loss and perhaps significant job loss is one realistic possibility."

The document has the Opposition Wildrose urging the premier to delay the increase.

"Whether it's the jump in the minimum wage, tax hikes, a new carbon tax, or royalty reviews, it's obvious the NDP give little to no thought on the economic consequences," Wildrose labour critic Grant Hunter says in a release. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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COMMUNITY

Police working with indigenous people

Edmonton police have strengthened their relationship with the indigenous community in recent years, but police Chief Rod Knecht said there's still work to be done.

Around 900 Edmonton Police Service officers received cultural sensitivity training since the Edmonton Police Service's Aboriginal Policing Strategy was implemented in 2013, Knecht said.

The strategy has resulted in

a "dramatic" improvement to their relationship with the indigenous community over the past few years, he said.

"We're aggressively invested in responding to the needs of an urban aboriginal community," Knecht said. "Is there more we can do? Yes, and there will continue to be more that we can do."

Knecht said police will continue to invest heavily in education, intervention and youth

matters in the coming year.

Aboriginal community member and Reconciliation in Solidarity Edmonton (RISE) co-founder Miranda Jimmy said she has noticed police focusing time and effort on building relationships in recent years.

But police could do more by focusing on indigenous representation within their organization, including encouraging youth to consider careers within their ranks, Jimmy said.

"I feel like things have changed," Jimmy said. "They're trying new things, which is always good. The only goal I think EPS should be focusing on is recruitment and training of more Aboriginal members."

"But the challenge with that is you can only pick from who applies. So if there aren't those applicants, or if they're not meeting necessary requirements, then they don't have a lot of choice." ANDREA ROSS/METRO

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Police are investigating an incident involving this Red River cart. COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Vandals hit historic cart

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Apparent attempt made to burn relic at U of A building



Andrea Ross
Metro | Edmonton

The University of Alberta's Faculty of Native Studies is installing video surveillance outside their buildings after a recent arson attempt.

The vandalism happened sometime Monday night or early Tuesday morning, when it is alleged someone stuffed newspaper into the Red River cart and tried to light it on fire.

The cart is a relic signifying the university's relationship with the indigenous community, and stands beside a tipi on the lawn in front of Pembina Hall.

A staff member noticed parts of the cart were burned on Tuesday morning, and reported it to the University of Alberta Protective Services.

The Edmonton Police Service is also investigating the incident, and said they have no suspects in custody.

Security in the area will be

increased in wake of the incident, associate dean of research Chris Andersen said.

"It's an awful thing to happen. I have no idea why somebody would do that, or why anybody would ever vandalize things," Andersen said. "We had already had discussion with folks on campus about putting in surveillance cameras, and it'll be expedited now."

Red River carts were pulled by horses and used by the Métis people to transport goods across the prairies during the 19th century. The U of A's cart was installed in November as a gift to the faculty from the Métis Nation of Alberta.

"I'm glad the university is taking it seriously," Andersen said.

"At one level, we see this hopefully as the beginning of a broader conversation about disrespect for symbols on campus and especially respect for cultural symbols like these."



It's an awful thing to happen. I have no idea why somebody would do that.

Chris Andersen

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Sweetie Pie Records is a new label created by Dustin Hank Sebzda, Lane Olson, Nolan Bossert, Andy Mulcair, Marlaena Moore and Adrien Jian ... not necessarily in that order.

SUPPLIED/SWEETIE PIE RECORDS

THE INTERVIEW

Sweet hearts and Sweetie Pies

Sweetie Pie Records is a new label formed by musicians Dustin Hank Sebzda, Lane Olson, Nolan Bossert, Andy Mulcair, Marlaena Moore

and Adrien Jian. In only four months they've released four albums and have a stable of the city's best talent. I asked them all about it.

Douglas Dollars: The Holiday Fun Fest pulls in not only bands from Sweetie Pie's roster but also dance and comedy. Is this community building conscious?

Andy Mulcair: Yes! We love that comedy and dance are active scenes here and not only want to showcase them but make new connections in those communities.

We owe 100 per cent of our little successes to everyone who has supported, contributed and shown up to releases.

We want to continue that. Next year we have our first vinyl (record) release, a 7" by Wares! We have quite a few tours in the planning stages right now and three of our artists are playing the BIG Festival in Calgary this January.

DOUGLAS DOLLARS/FOR METRO

Holy busy nights

EVENTS

The city's most interesting person shares weekend plans

HOW TO DOUGLAS



ALL WEEKEND

Brittany's Lounge at 10225 97 St. is home to the Edmonton Burlesque Events Christmas Special on Friday and Saturday nights. Each night, at 9 p.m. we'll be treated to a special one-night only act, and some other treats to warm us on a winter's eve.

FRIDAY

In an act of self-celebration I invite you to 'Douglas Dollars Talks Time,' a presentation as part of Edmonton's CreativeMornings meetups. I'll talk about what I've learned about time, at the Latitude 53 gallery (10242 106 St.) 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

When the talk's over, the gnarly grilling gang of Sailin' On are hosting a lunch pop-up at Earth's General Store (10150 104 St.) until 3 p.m. Cash only. With a menu of your food-truck favourites, this is the Friday lunch to have.

At 8 p.m. the doors open at Ritchie Hall, over on 7727 98 St., for the Sweetie Pie Records' Holiday Fun Fest show. Comedy sets, live dance performances, and musical performances from Marlaena Moore and Rusty — this is where you want to be.

If fashion is more your

game, there's the El Cortez 'The Ugly SWEAT-er Party' at 8230 Gateway Blvd. Get down to nu-disco tunes and show off your ugliest sweater on the dance floor.

SATURDAY

Things start early with the 10 a.m. Saturday Morning All-You-Can-Eat-Cereal Cartoon Party hosted by Metro Cinema (8712 109 St.). It's exactly what it sounds like — endless cereal, cartoons from years past, and chaos. This event sells out quickly, so get in line to grab your ticket as soon as you can.

Further on the south side at the King Edward Community League (7708 85 St.) is the Edmonton Witches Market. I don't know what we're in store for with this one, but I'm too curious to not find out.

The Alberta Legislature grounds are one of my favourite places for beautiful sights on winter nights, and to help us celebrate the season they have hundreds of trees adorned with lights, lighted between noon and 8 p.m. It's a cute date venue out in the nature.

Afternoons in Old Strathcona this weekend will also feature two horse-drawn sleighs making their way through weekend shopping traffic.

SUNDAY

Edmonton's most well-known bicycle gang, Deathspoke, is holding their annual Holiday Fundraiser and Christmas Party at Denizen Hall (10311 103 Ave.) from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m.

While known for combining parties and concerts to raise money for good causes, this may end up being a quiet night at home for many of us.



SNOW'S GOTTA GO

The safety of your neighbourhood is in your hands this winter. Keeping sidewalks clear of snow and ice allows for you, your neighbours, service providers and emergency responders to walk safely. Help a neighbour in need with sidewalk clearing by becoming a Snow Angel.

Edmonton.ca/snowangels



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TO: Trieste Michelle Magsisi

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Name and Address of Solicitor

Kornfeld LLP, Barristers and Solicitors
1100 – 505 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC V7X 1M5
Telephone: 604-331-8300
Attention: Devin P. Lucas



Above: an interior concept drawing of the new Boyle Street centre, integrating indigenous culture and design. **Below:** an exterior concept. COURTESY MANASC ISAAC

Centre to entwine 'two parts' of city

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Facility to host more services, incorporate aboriginal art



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Boyle Street Community Services aims to add its own spark to the skyline growing around it in the arena district.

The centre announced plans Thursday for a \$60-million building at its current site on 105th Street, one that Executive Director Julian Daly said is badly needed.

"Our building that we are currently in was built as a banana-ripening warehouse and was never really designed as a community centre," he said.



Daly said a new, expanded facility will allow the centre to offer more services, such as laundry and shower facilities, as well as housing. He added that many of the centre's programs aren't actually housed in its building because there's no space.

The proposed building aims to bring indigenous culture into the design, which Daly said is important.

"For the whole of our history, aboriginal people and aboriginal culture have been central. About 80 per cent of the people who come through our doors everyday are of aboriginal descent," he said.

With the arena across the street, Daly sees the new building as symbolizing two cultures coming together.

"We could right at the heart of the city join those two parts of our city, which is indigenous Edmonton and non-indigenous Edmonton," he said.

Daly said that despite the value of the land, they don't want to move.

"This is our home and we have been where we have been for over 20 years," he said.

He said the next step will be to raise funds. They hope to have full government backing.

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The Power to Surprise



Diabetes discovery at U of A

MEDICINE

Scientists revolutionize islet cell transplants



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

A new discovery headed for human trials at the University of Alberta could significantly improve cell transplants for diabetes patients—a procedure that means they don't have to inject insulin for long periods of time.

Type 1 diabetics can currently be injected with cells

from a donor's pancreas called 'islets' that produce insulin. Since researchers at the university developed a method called the Edmonton Protocol in 1999, more than 250 people have been treated here.

But patients have to take anti-rejection drugs, which have the side effect of making the islets produce less insulin, meaning each person usually needs at least two transplants.

"It's a vicious cycle, they get the islets, but there are factors that may impact the islet long-term," said Dr. Boris Gala-Lopez, lead author of the study and a clinical-research fellow in the Department of Surgery.

Now, researchers have dis-



This is a transplant that would allow quality of life for many people, especially young people who are active, working and having a life.

Dr. Boris Gala-Lopez

covered that soaking the cells in an anti-aging glycopeptide (AAGP) that mimics one found in Arctic fish can be used to protect islets from the effects of the anti-injection drugs.

The cells "are protected in a remarkably durable manner," Dr. James Shapiro, senior author and Canada research chair in transplant surgery and regenerative medicine, said in a release.

"We find we need far fewer cells to treat diabetes in our

preclinical models than we would normally."

AAGP hasn't been tested on human islets yet, but Gala-Lopez is hopeful they'll see the same effect. Fewer transplants per patient would mean the procedure could be performed on more people.

"This is a transplant that would allow quality of life for many people, especially young people who are active, working and having a life," Gala-Lopez said.



Boris Gala-Lopez and James Shapiro authored the new study on islet transplants in diabetics. CONTRIBUTED

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Winter runs aren't that bad

FITNESS

Fitness prof gives tips for jogging when it's cold out



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton is a city of runners. But as the days get shorter the urge to hibernate gets stronger.

Ken Riess teaches in NAIT's personal fitness trainer program and swears that with a little extra preparation, you

can be hitting the river valley all winter long: "It's just a combination of equipment, motivation and state of mind."

1) Dress for the weather: "Like your mom used to tell you, dress in layers," Riess says. That means a windproof garment on top, an insulating layer and then a base layer to wick moisture off your skin. For your feet, Riess swears by detachable cleats.

2) Think exertion, not distance: If you're a dedicated runner it's easy to get discouraged as everything's going to be a bit slower. But that doesn't mean it's not a workout. "In winter, go for effort, not time," Riess says.

3) Stay hydrated: Despite the temperature, you actually sweat the same amount in winter, if not more, Riess says. So if you're out for more than half an hour, bring water. Bonus tip: Keep a bottle under your clothes to prevent it from freezing.

4) Get in the zone: "I think the hardest thing about running outside in winter is thinking about running outside in the winter," Riess says. If you can talk yourself into putting on your exercise clothes, it's just one more step.

He says it'll be worth it once you get out there. "I love it; it's great."



A NAIT fitness prof says there's no reason you can't happily run year-round. ISTOCK

IN BRIEF

Police search for witnesses

Edmonton police are looking for more witnesses to a homicide that happened this summer.

Police were called to the area of 49 Avenue and 111A Street at around 5:30 a.m. on July 12 for reports of shots fired.

A woman suffering from gunshot wounds was treated at the scene, taken to hospital, where she later died. The Edmonton Police Service say they now believe a bright yellow Pontiac Sunfire or Chevrolet Cavalier was involved in the incident, and are asking witnesses to come forward.

METRO

METRO TALKS RACHEL NOTLEY

THE PREMIER OF ALBERTA TALKS WITH METRO
ABOUT THE YEAR PAST AND THE YEAR AHEADFOCUSED ON
PARTNERSHIP**Ryan
Tumilty**
Metro | Edmonton

As 2015 closes, Premier Rachel Notley met with Metro to answer questions about the road ahead and her first seven months in office. Here's what she said.

METRO: If the economy isn't at where you budgeted it would be at, do you have a plan?

NOTLEY: We always do. Any good government is going to keep an eye on the state of the economy and look at whether the recovery happens as soon as you expect it to or whether that is more delayed.

That's why we introduced a budget this year that was very focused on, as I have said in other occasions, partnering with Albertans as we try to move ahead through this difficult time rather than taking an economic crisis and piling onto it, with a whole bunch of additional crises.

METRO: Yours is the first NDP government in Alberta's history, but, given the situation you walked into, do you feel you've been dealt a bad hand?

NOTLEY: I think every premier would love to take over when oil is at \$150 per barrel, it makes things a little easier. You also show your mettle when you're faced with challenging times. That's what government is about.

METRO: Was the election an endorsement of your entire platform or, as many have suggested, simply a call for change?

NOTLEY: It's a combination of the two. We were very clear in our platform. It was not too vague in most cases.

We had some fair priorities in it.

It was substantive, but balanced. It was not overly ambitious as far as I am concerned and it was pragmatic.

We try to reach back to it as much as we can, because I think obviously Albertans are going to respect that. I think that actually renews faith in democracy if people get more or less what they voted for.

As conditions change and as circumstances change people also expect their government to exercise good judgment. In my case I am also a big fan of evidence-based governance, so we will do that as well.

**"I think every premier would love to take over when oil is at \$150 per barrel," says Rachel Notley.** KEVIN TUONG/METRO

METRO: Do you go ahead with your platform, like Bill 6 or increasing minimum wage, or do you have to consult, since some didn't vote for you or the platform?

NOTLEY: I think for the most part on certain issues that are principle-based, you move forward.

On Bill 6, it is our responsibility that we didn't communicate well enough with people, that we created worry on the impact this would have on people's way of life.

It was never our intention that family members or unpaid workers would be covered by it, but we didn't make it clear at the outset.

That's why we put in the amendment that we did, to say that it's in the legislation and you can count on this.

Now going forward in terms of the development of the regulations and the timing of the application of the pieces of it, that's something we always intended to engage in, in a very consultative way, just as every other sector has engaged in a very consultative way.

METRO: You brought the bill before the consultation, though?

NOTLEY: No, not really. The consultation is on the regulations and so the heart of this stuff is actually found in the

regulations, that's the way the legislation is structured in Alberta and in most other jurisdictions.

More and more farmers will see that the things they were worried about are not things that they needed to be worried about.

METRO: A lot of economists are predicting this will be a bad year. Are you worried about the year ahead?

NOTLEY: I am worried about it on behalf of many Alberta families who are worried about it. I don't think you can be someone who cares about their community and not worry about it.

That's why, as I say, we have already embarked upon a budget that is geared to giving us levers that we can pull to attempt to provide greater levels of support as needed.

We still have to balance that with prudence with respect to the budget, but I think we certainly need to do everything we can to support families, understanding that it's a dip and it's not going to last forever. There will be some recovery.

Certainly, if you've just been handed a layoff notice, you don't care what's coming six months or 18 months down the road. You care about right now.

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Landmark set for big things

CONSTRUCTION

Building's new tenants include a tavern set to open in spring

Benjamin Freeland
For Metro | Edmonton

Jasper Avenue's 102-year-old CKUA building is on the verge of a new lease on life, with interior retrofits now complete and façade improvements on schedule for completion in February 2016.

The six-storey landmark, also known as the Alberta Block, served as the home of Edmonton's most iconic radio station, and has undergone major retrofits since being purchased by RedBrick Developments and a group of investors.

Its first new occupant, Edmonton Digital Arts College, moved into the fourth floor in October of this year.

RedBrick partner Tegan Martin-Drysdale said she and her colleagues are thrilled to be injecting new life into



The historic CKUA building is undergoing major facade improvements that are scheduled for completion in February 2016. SUBMITTED

this iconic building.

"This building has been part of Edmonton's downtown for over a century now, and we're

proud to have positioned it for the next hundred years," she said.

Main floor tenants include a

new music venue, The Needle Vinyl Tavern, set to open in the spring. The Needle will occupy 80 per cent of the ground floor

“This node of activity we're creating will bring great energy to the community.”

Tegan Martin-Drysdale

on the east side of the building, with a new barber shop occupying the remaining west side of the floor.

Three other confirmed tenants, Dechant Construction, Shott Earthworks, and Take Two Real Estate, will be moving into the fifth and sixth floors in the coming months.

"This area of Jasper Avenue has been going through tremendous revitalization of late, and we're very excited to be part of it," said Martin-Drysdale.

"This node of activity we're creating will bring great energy to the community and be a magnet for pedestrian traffic. We're also extremely excited to be involved in bringing a new music venue to Edmonton, especially in light of all the venues we've lost in recent years."

IN BRIEF

Boxing coach charged with sexual assault

Edmonton police are asking for any possible victims to come forward after a local boxing coach was recently charged with sexual assault.

It is alleged that the boxing coach had made sexual advances towards an athlete at a boxing club in the city in September. Leo Guilford Marsh, 63, who was not previously known to police, was arrested on Tuesday and charged with sexual assault and sexual exploitation. METRO

Caribou recovery better when First Nations involved

If Canada is serious about reconciliation with First Nations, a new study suggests, then giving them a greater voice in caribou conservation might be a good place to start.

The Boreal Leadership Council — made up of First Nations, business leaders and environmental groups — released a study Thursday that concludes having indigenous people on board makes a big difference to conservation programs.

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GT model shown

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PROVINCIAL BEAT

Notley says priorities more pressing than pot

After strong words from Kathleen Wynne, premier of Ontario, about the possibility of carrying pot in liquor stores, Rachel Notley said Alberta is taking a wait-and-see approach.

"I think that is an issue that we will wait to see the progress that the federal government makes on it," she told Metro Thursday.

"When we actually start to see it being close to an issue we have to manage then we will focus our resources."

Officials from the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission said they have expertise to handle controlled substances, but that in an open market, where the government doesn't operate stores, it's still not clear what could happen

with marijuana sales.

"We have a lot of issues that are in front of us right now in Alberta, so that's where we are going to dedicate our time to," Notley said.

METRO STAFF
WITH FILES FROM RYAN TUMILTY

RCMP charge Grande Prairie man with murder in deaths of two women

RCMP have arrested a suspect in the deaths of two women in northwestern Alberta.

The body of Amber Dawn Diebert, who was 25, was found in a rural area last Friday outside of Grande Prairie.

Police say Jody Michelle Topilko, a friend of Diebert who was last seen on Nov. 29, is also dead.

No other information about Topilko, who was 30, was released.

Mark Phillips of Grande Prairie, who is 28, has been charged with two counts of second-degree murder.

He is to appear in Grande Prairie provincial court on Monday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

“That’s where we are going to dedicate our time to.”

Rachel Notley

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Trudeau unlikely to pressure Saudis

HUMAN RIGHTS

PM rules out making a push to help secure blogger release

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has no "immediate plans" to call Saudi Arabian authorities to ask for the liberation of jailed blogger Raif Badawi.

In a year-end interview with The Canadian Press on Wednesday, Trudeau said he won't pick up the phone right now on behalf of Badawi, who was sentenced to 1,000 lashes and 10 years in jail for his criticism of Saudi clerics. "It's not in my immediate plans," he said.

Foreign Affairs Minister Stephane Dion raised the matter with his Saudi counterpart, Adel Al Jubeir, when they met in Ottawa on Thursday. They discussed the state of human rights in Saudi Arabia as well as Badawi's case, where Dion reiterated a request for clemency.



Ensaf Haidar, wife of jailed Saudi blogger Raif Badawi, shows a portrait of her husband. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Raif Badawi has a family who are here in Canada, which gives a certain connection," Trudeau said. "It's a humanitarian case on which we continue to express ourselves in a clear fashion."

Badawi is not a Canadian citizen but his wife and three children live in Sherbrooke, Que.

He was arrested in 2012, convicted in 2014 and received 50 of the 1,000 lashes in January of this year during a public flogging. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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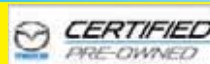
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New outline for memorial to victims

POLITICS

Fresh location, smaller budget and a redesign after troubles



Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

It's back to the drawing board for the controversial memorial to the victims of communism, — a new location, a new design and a smaller budget.

On Thursday, the federal government squashed its predecessors' much-maligned plan to build the memorial on land southwest of the Supreme Court building in Ottawa.

Ottawa's city council, community and architectural

groups and Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin all opposed that location.

Heritage Minister Mélanie Joly said the memorial will instead be built at the Garden of the Provinces and Territories.

Joly said she consulted more than 30 people and there was consensus that the memorial should be moved there.

"It is a place clearly accessible to residents and visitors," she

said. The design of the memorial, which has also come under criticism, will be scrapped.

Joly said a new design competition will be launched in the new year, with a view to completing the memorial by 2018.

The planned \$5.5-million budget is also no more, but Joly said the federal government is still helping fund the project, with contributions capped at \$1.5 million, half the new cost.



Minister of Canadian Heritage Mélanie Joly.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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FIRST NATIONS

\$30M road to free remote reserve

Tears flowed and a victory drumming song reverberated through the Manitoba legislature Thursday as an isolated reserve under one of the country's longest boil-water advisories received a lifeline to the outside world.

It was a day Chief Erwin Redsky said he never thought he would see in his lifetime — all three levels of government coming together to fund a \$30-million all-weather road connecting the Shoal Lake 40 reserve and its 270 residents to the mainland.

The commitment marks a turning point for the community and for First Nations in Canada, he said.

"This is a new beginning," Redsky said, his voice shaking. "Let's not dwell on the past. Let's move forward together."

"First Nations will be part of this country to rebuild it again. Today, the work begins."

The reserve on the Manitoba-Ontario boundary was cut off 101 years ago during construction of an aqueduct to carry fresh water to Winnipeg. The

land was taken without permission and residents have been living with the consequences ever since, Redsky said.

The reserve has been without clean water for 18 years. A new water treatment plant is too expensive to build without a road to transport supplies, he said. Residents have died crossing an ice road in the winter.

In the summer, the First Nation depends on an aging ferry, but the vessel failed a government inspection this year. Ambulances won't risk going to the community and children have to leave the reserve to continue their education past Grade 8.

However, the Liberals promised during the recent election to come up with Ottawa's share. It's a moral obligation, said Indigenous Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett.

"This couldn't wait any longer," Bennett said to applause. "We see this as an important first step in us partnering with First Nations and renewing the relationship."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

This is a new beginning. Let's not dwell on the past. Let's move forward together. First Nations will be part of this country.

Chief Erwin Redsky



IN BRIEF

Montreal teen first found guilty of new terror crime

The prosecution says a Montreal-area teen has become the first person in Canada to be found guilty of attempting to leave the country to participate in terrorism-related activities.

The teen, who cannot be named, was found guilty of two terrorism-related offences on Thursday as youth court Judge Dominique Wilhelmy handed

down the verdict. He was facing two charges: committing a robbery in association with a terrorist organization and planning to leave Canada to participate in the activities of a terrorist group abroad.

"It is a first, it is a new infraction and it is the first conviction," federal prosecutor Marie-Eve Moore told reporters. The new charge was introduced in 2013. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PM to focus on jobs, climate

POLITICS

Trudeau says there's no need to open Constitution

Justin Trudeau says there is no pressing problem facing the country that can only be resolved by opening the Constitution — a laborious, time-consuming road the new prime minister has no intention of going down.

That includes the fact that Quebec has never formally signed onto the Constitution, which was patriated in 1982 with a charter of rights by Trudeau's father, Pierre, over the objections of the province's then-separatist government.

"What I ask now to anyone who offers to open the Constitution, or says we should open the Constitution, is: what concrete problem are we trying to solve that is unsolvable without opening the Constitution?" Trudeau said during a 75-minute sit-down with the Ottawa bureau of The Canadian Press.



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with reporters in Ottawa on Wednesday.

PATRICK DOYLE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"I'd rather be talking about climate change and energy issues and job creation and training and health care and all these things that will make a concrete difference in people's lives."

Trudeau scoffed at a suggestion that Quebec's continued refusal to sign the Constitution is a major problem.

"Which articulates itself how?" he asked rhetorically.

Some Quebecers will always complain that Quebec is excluded from the Constitution, Trudeau acknowledged. But the Constitution does apply to the province and nothing in it has

SENATE

Some politicians have argued that the Constitution should be opened to abolish or reform the Senate. But Trudeau has opted instead for reforms that can be implemented without changing the Constitution.

limited Quebec's ability to deliver health care or education or take action on the issues that matter most to Quebecers, he said.

As well, he said Quebecers are among those who value the charter of rights most highly.

Moreover, Trudeau asserted that the Oct. 19 federal election showed, for the first time in three decades, that Quebecers want to re-engage and play a role in the governance of the country.

"More than half the MPs elected in Quebec are from the governing party. That is an indication that Quebecers are not excluded from government or feeling excluded from Canada."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Ukraine wants more Canadian police trainers

Ukraine's newly appointed national police chief is asking Justin Trudeau's Liberal government for more help in establishing and training a professional security force.

Khatia Dekanoidze made the pitch to both RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson and Foreign Affairs Minister Stephane Dion in separate meetings over the last two days. The creation of a trusted, national policing agency in the war-torn former Soviet country, formally enacted on Nov. 7, has become a major priority for President Petro Poroshenko's government.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Killer whale population experiencing baby boom

The endangered killer whale population off British Columbia's coast is experiencing a baby boom.

Scientists say an eighth calf has been born to the so-called J-pod of southern resident killer whales that's been growing over the past year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FIRST NATIONS

Documents disclose Bill C-27 options

The Canadian government considered punishing First Nations who refused to comply with controversial financial transparency legislation by putting someone else in control of their books, according to newly released documents.

The Toronto Star obtained a memo prepared for former aboriginal affairs minister Bernard Valcourt in February — released in response to an access-to-information request — recommending options for dealing with First Nations that had not yet complied with the First Nations Financial Transpar-

ency Act (Bill C-27).

The law, brought in by the previous Conservative government, requires First Nations to submit financial documents, including audited financial statements and the salaries and expenses of chiefs and band councilors, to be published on the Indigenous and Northern Affairs website.

The partially redacted memo at one point discusses the idea of placing non-compliant First Nations under third-party management, which means a private-sector consultant would take over the administration of money associated with departmentally



I'm not surprised they would have considered it as a tool, but the tool as a hammer doesn't work any longer. New Democrat indigenous affairs critic Charlie Angus

funded programs and services.

The memo acknowledges this would be a risky move.

"Imposing a third-party funding agreement manager as a sanction of non-compliance for First Nations must be carefully considered and should be aligned with the funding agreement. An assessment of the default situa-

tion and potential risks to delivery of community programs and services should be considered," reads the memo dated Feb. 26.

"There is a potential risk to the (department's) default management policy framework of employing third-party management as a sanction," says the memo.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



AFN National Chief Perry Bellegarde speaks at the Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly in Gatineau on Dec. 8. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Individuals of value

SOCIAL MEDIA

Campaign to highlight migrants' contributions

Migrants from around the world are sharing their life stories in a unique "I am a Migrant" campaign, launched by the International Organization of Migration to remind the world of the value of migrants.

Hundreds of people — including a Somali woman who moved to Canada to go to university, a French woman in Georgia and a Congolese artist in Mauritania — are participating in the global social media campaign, posting their profiles and photos on the website iamamigrant.org.

"We know from economic reports the incredible contributions migrants make. But it is easy to forget that," said Leonard Doyle, IOM spokesman. "We have to remind ourselves the world is a living mosaic and that makes it much richer."

The campaign comes at a time when the news has been focused on scenes of desperate refugees, and the sometimes extreme political reactions those images have provoked.

Doyle hopes showing the value of migrants through positive stories will shift the political narrative and counter xenophobia and anti-immigrant rhetoric prevalent in parts of Europe.



Reflections on life in a new country ① **Lauriane, from France, now in Georgia** — "Everyone refers to people like me as 'expats.' In reality, I am a migrant." ② **Nadifo, from Somalia, now in Canada** — "I think Canada is a good country, where multiculturalism is practised, where so many people are there together in peace." ③ **Mihir, from India, now in the U.K.** — "I feel Indian but I feel British, too. This is a duality." ④ **Rahi, from Iraq, now in Belgium** — "(My family has been) given so many opportunities here that Belgium has become our second home." ALL PHOTOS VIA IAMAMIGRANT.ORG

tical narrative and counter xenophobia and anti-immigrant rhetoric prevalent in parts of Europe.

The Mexican government, an enthusiastic participant, will put "Soy Migrante" posters on display next month.

Facebook in Germany has also lent support, donating online advertising space. Four videos have been posted in German on Facebook in the last two days, garnering five million views as of noon Thursday.

The campaign — launched

in time for the UN's International Migrants Day — builds on a crowd-funded initiative "I am an Immigrant," introduced earlier this year in the U.K. by the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

REPORT

Global refugee numbers bypass 20M

The global refugee population has surpassed the 20-million mark for the first time since 1992 while the number of those returning home is at its lowest level, says the United Nations refugee agency.

According to its 2015 mid-year update report, an average of 4,600 people are being forced to flee their countries every day as Syria's war remains the single biggest cause worldwide of both new refugees and continuing mass internal and external displacement.

By the end of June, there were 20.2 million refugees — up from 19.5 million a year ago — and 34 million internally displaced people (IDP) — up by 2 million — around the world.

In the first six months of the year, the international community received 993,600 asylum claims, accounting for a 78 per cent increase over the same period in 2014, said the report to be released in Geneva on Friday.

"Forced displacement is now profoundly affecting our times.



Migrants make their way towards a refugee camp near Rigonce, Slovenia, in October. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

It touches the lives of millions of our fellow human beings — both those forced to flee and those who provide them with shelter and protection," said

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres in a statement.

While Canada's expedited resettlement of 25,000 Syrian

refugees by the end of February is one bright spot amid the world crisis, the report also shows some worrisome trends.

Voluntary return rates — which measures how many refugees have safely returned home — are at their lowest levels in three decades. By June, only 84,000 people managed to go back to their home countries, compared to 107,000 in the same period last year.

The consequence of having more refugees stuck in exile is the pressure it puts on countries hosting them, something if unmanaged, "can increase resentment and abet politicization of refugees." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

WHERE THEY'RE COMING FROM

Most common source countries for refugees

① **Syria:** 4.2 million.
Fleeing civil war and the threat of extremist group Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

② **Afghanistan:** 2.6 million.
Fleeing the Taliban terrorist group.

③ **Somalia:** 1.1 million.
Fleeing insurgency led by Al-Shabab.

④ **South Sudan:** 744,100.
Fleeing civil war.

⑤ **Sudan:** 640,900.
Fleeing civil war.

SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS REFUGEE AGENCY 2015 MID-YEAR REPORT

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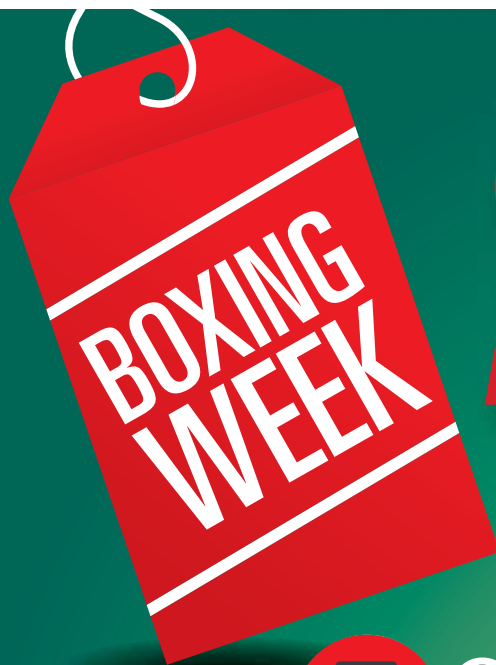
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Let sleeping teens lie

EDUCATION

Eight too early to start class, experts say

More school districts around the U.S. are heeding the advice of scientists who have long said that expecting teens to show up to class before 8 a.m. isn't good for their health or their report cards.

The Seattle school board voted last month to adopt an 8:45 a.m. start time beginning next year for all of its high schools and most of its middle schools, joining 70 districts across the nation who adopted a later start time in recent years.

The movement still has a long way to go: There are more than 24,000 U.S. high schools. Supporters expect that such decisions will be made more quickly now that people have mostly stopped debating the underlying science.

Proponents of later start times got a boost last year when the American Academy of Pediatrics said that while starting later isn't a panacea for



Ben Early yawns before classes at Roosevelt High School in Seattle. The Seattle school board voted last month to adopt an 8:45 a.m. start time beginning next year for all of its high schools and most of its middle schools. ELAINE THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

teen health and academic problems, it can improve students' lives in many other ways.

"Essentially, across the board, any domain that you look at improves pretty dramatically," said Dr. Judy Owens of Boston Children's Hospital and author of the academy's policy statement on teen sleep. After the report, the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention also pushed for later bell times.

Research studies have shown later start times help combat sleep deprivation in teens, who naturally fall asleep later than their parents would like, and improve academic success, attendance, mental health and cut sleep-related car accidents.

Bridget Shelton, a freshman at Seattle's Roosevelt High School, believes the change in bell times will help her move from getting 6-7 hours of sleep to closer to 8 hours next year.

"I know many students that come in and are just struggling to stay awake," she said. "Many of my friends are falling asleep in class."

BALTIMORE

Hung jury means retrial in Freddie Gray case

Instead of a dramatic conclusion to the first of six trials of police officers in the death of Freddie Gray, the mistrial left Baltimore, Md., in suspense and confusion, with no immediate understanding of what happens next.

The city had braced for a possible repeat of the protests, destruction and dismay that engulfed the city in April after Gray's neck was broken in the back of a police van. But several small marches ended peacefully overnight as the community tried to process the news.

Baltimore Circuit Judge Barry Williams acknowledged the hung jury Wednesday after

the panel deadlocked over whether Officer William Porter had committed any crimes by failing to take measures that might have saved the life of the young black man, who was shackled and placed face down in the wagon after running from police.

Back at square one, prosecutors and defence attorneys met in Williams' chambers Thursday morning to discuss dates for a possible retrial. A uniformed deputy stood guard, and when the lawyers left about 30 minutes later, they declined to comment, citing the judge's gag order.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Putin describes Trump as 'bright and talented'

In Vladimir Putin's view, Donald Trump is "bright and talented" and "the absolute leader" in the presidential race. The Russian word he used not only means "bright" in terms of intelligence, but also "vivid" and even "gaudy."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Donald vs. Kimmel

In an appearance on Jimmy Kimmel's late-night show Wednesday, Donald Trump was questioned about campaign issues, saying he's gotten calls of thanks from friends who are Muslim.

"Those may have been crank calls," Kimmel replied.

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CRIME

Exec who jacked up drug price arrested

Martin Shkreli, the former hedge-fund manager vilified for buying Turing Pharmaceuticals and jacking up the price of a life-saving drug more than 50-fold, was arrested Thursday on securities fraud charges unrelated to the furor.

The boyish-looking 32-year-old entrepreneur — an unapologetically aggressive businessman and relentlessly self-promoting figure who has called himself “the world’s most eligible bachelor” on Twitter and recently plunged into the hip-hop world by buying an unreleased album by Wu-Tang Clan — was taken into custody in a grey hoodie and awaited an appearance in federal court in Brooklyn.

Online, many people took instant glee in his arrest, some of them joking about a judge

ratcheting up his sentence or lawyers jacking up their hourly fees 5,000 per cent for defending him in his hour of need.

Shkreli was charged in an indictment unconnected to the drug price hikes imposed by his company Turing Pharmaceuticals. The charges instead involve his actions at another pharmaceutical company, Retrophin, which he ran as CEO from 2012 to 2014.

The indictment said Shkreli and others orchestrated three interrelated fraud schemes from 2009 to 2014. It said they fraudulently induced investors to sink their money into two separate funds and misappropriated Retrophin’s assets to satisfy Shkreli’s personal and professional debts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Martin Shkreli is escorted by law enforcement agents in New York on Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Shaw explains takeover

Shaw Communications says its proposed \$1.6-billion takeover of Wind Mobile will provide an affordable entry into the industry and an expansion beyond Western Canada.

3Macs telecom analyst Troy Crandall said Wind Mobile now is finally a real threat to the established wireless players, and Shaw clearly has a plan to take the carrier national.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Facebook is rolling out a feature called **Photo Magic** that will automatically address a message so it can be sent quickly to friends identified in a picture. istock

Facebook trying a little Photo Magic

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Feature aims to foster more allegiance to Messenger app

Facebook is trying to make it easier to send photos as the holiday season’s picture-taking frenzy escalates.

The world’s largest social-networking service is offering a feature called Photo Magic that will automatically address a message so it can be sent quickly to Facebook friends identified in a picture. The option relies on the same image-recognition technology that attaches people’s names to Facebook posts.

Facebook Inc. will highlight Photo Magic in a Messenger update that started rolling out Thursday to users of Apple’s iPhones and smartphones running on Google’s Android software.

The update is being distributed to a broad audience after a month of testing among smartphone users in Australia. Facebook is planning to make Photo Magic available to Messenger users everywhere in the world, except in Canada and the European Union.

Messenger has more than 700 million users, about half the size of the audience on Fa-

cebook’s social network.

Facebook is counting on Photo Magic to foster more allegiance to its Messenger app as it competes against other competing services such as Snapchat that have become particularly popular among teenagers and young adults.

As part of the Messenger upgrade, Facebook is also including an option that will allow users to change the colours of their exchanges with different friends and switch the formal name of a recipient to a nickname, such as “mom” or “dad.”

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

9.5B

Number of pictures already being sent each month through Messenger, according to Facebook

CHARITIES

Tech used to tap new younger donors

A group of 20-somethings flew from Vancouver to El Salvador earlier this month to build new homes for agricultural families displaced by flooding. Their materials included wood, fibre cement and, most importantly, Snapchat.

The millennials used the popular video-messaging app to record heartfelt donation requests, and then fanned them out to their social networks. In short order, each had crowd-funded the \$3,000 required per home for the 20 families.

The innovative fundraising method that leverages several technologies was developed by a Vancouver technology startup called Change Heroes.

It’s just one of several ventures by British Columbia-based tech companies that are turning philanthropy on its head. They’re doing it by tapping the hard-to-reach millennial demographic using the digital medium that dominates their lifestyle.

By using the tools young adults communicate with, in this case personal, one-to-one video messages, more than 50 per cent of those asked made donations.

The average donation was \$250.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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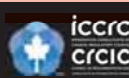
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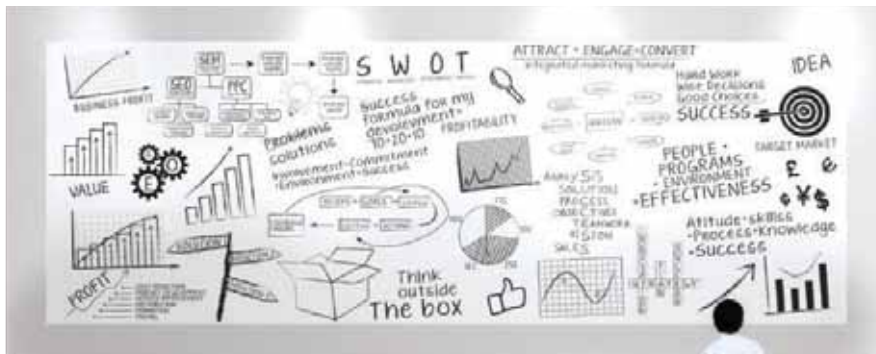
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The voice of 'We're doomed!'

ANTHONY DANIELS

Playing C-3PO comes with its share of strange moments

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Having one of the most recognizable voices in movie history can lead to some surreal moments. Just ask Anthony Daniels. He's played C-3PO in all seven Star Wars films, including this weekend's *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* and once rented a car with a very familiar voice on the GPS.

"I felt uncomfortable with me — very clearly — giving me instruction for something I didn't know. I found it quite bizarre. I was driving thinking, 'This is unnatural.'"

Other times the voice, which in real life is less mannered than his on-screen counterpart, brings him unexpected recognition.

For some of his fans, seeing isn't believing — hearing is.

"One of the most charming things that happens to me is when an adult will bring a child to me and say, 'He doesn't believe you're C-3PO.'"

"And why would he? I'm some old guy with white hair. Then I do the

voice. You see the sound go in one ear and then there is an absolutely realistic time delay whilst the synapses process this. Nothing happens for a second-and-a-half, then suddenly there's a smile and excitement. I love that delay while they process it. You couldn't buy that. I've been given that and it gives me utter joy because it is without guile. It is just an honest recognition of something I did."

A week before Daniels trekked to Tunisia in 1976 to begin shooting the sci-fi space opera, he was a stage actor performing in Tom Stoppard's absurdist play *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.

"It's about two nobodies," he says. "Rosencrantz is a bit gung ho, (he) doesn't think. Doesn't work things out really; just goes for the main thing. His friend Guildenstern is much more reserved, much more intellectual. He thinks about things. Worries about things."

"There I am a week later playing C-3PO in the desert with R2D2. I would say it was three or four years later that something in my brain went, 'Wait a minute, R2 and 3PO are *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*.' There is a nice synergy there, or connection I think. 3PO is the clever one and R2 is the gung ho one. They're odd couple buddies. It is a great dynamic to act off."

Today C-3PO and R2D2 are seen as a classic combo, but during filming, Daniels had his doubts it would work.

"The problem for me was R2D2 never made any sounds so I was playing off myself. Not to aggrandize myself, but it was quite a challenge. It



The problem for me was R2D2 never made any sounds so I was playing off myself.

Anthony Daniels

was a bit like a terrible *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* where you pretend a chair is your best friend.

"When I saw the final movie and there were R2's beeps and responses, to me it was total magic because that was the first time I ever saw it. They had woven a conversation after the fact."

Playing the golden droid has been a lifelong career for Daniels. The 69-year-old actor was just 30 years old when he first donned C-3PO's suit and has since appeared in person or voice in dozens of movies, television shows, commercials, PSAs and live events as the character. He's even in the legendary *The Star Wars Holiday Special* and says he's been "very lucky to be given the chance" to play C-3PO but calls that his "business life."

"I don't go around saying, 'Do you know who I am?'"

When I suggest he could at least use his fame and the C-3PO voice to get great tables in restaurants he says, "No, no, no. Then they'd say there's no table tonight or tomorrow. I don't think people would be too terribly impressed to have me in the restaurant. Were I to enter in a gold suit then I could have the entire room to myself!"

Despite playing one of the most recognizable characters of all time, Anthony Daniels, inset, almost never gets recognized. HANDOUT

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5 CLASSIC MUST-WATCH CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Brian Gasperek
For Metro Canada



If you haven't had a chance to kick back with a glass of spiked eggnog and stream Bill Murray's new holiday Netflix special, A

Very Murray Christmas, you're totally missing out.

The show is not only as captivatingly bonkers as you would expect from a Bill Murray and friends holiday extravaganza, it also pays a great homage to all of the classic Christmas variety specials from television's past.

Especially the really weird ones.

Dating back to the late '50s, celebrity-hosted Christmas specials were a huge draw on TV every winter. They featured singing, dancing, lovable guest stars, and some questionably thin holiday-themed plotlines. The popularity of these specials

lasted several decades, and a handful of them still remain notorious today.

Whether it's because of their festive nostalgia, their utter ridiculousness or their disastrous legacy, here are 5 classic Christmas TV specials that you really need to go back and watch.



1 Pee-wee's Playhouse Christmas Special

Pee-wee Herman's Christmas special from 1988 is an absolute must watch. The show combines the nostalgic singing and dancing from classic '60s holiday specials with the weekly weirdness that was Pee-wee's Playhouse. Along with Herman himself, the special features all of Pee-wee's bizarre Playhouse friends like Chairy, Cowboy Curtis and Charo. The strange cast interacts and performs with a solid line-up of '80s special guests that include Cher, Magic Johnson, Glen Close, Whoopi Goldberg and Oprah. The special is available on Netflix and should appeal to children, adults and stoners alike.



2 The Judy Garland Christmas Show

In the early '60s, The Judy Garland Christmas Show aired as a sweet, wholesome variety special that was fit for the entire family. But if you watch it now, it will completely floor you. The special, which took place just a few years before Garland died from a barbiturate overdose, was entirely sponsored by a pharmaceutical company! It features a visibly troubled-looking Garland, hosting a Christmas celebration with her children and guests at their faux home. It includes a plethora of uncomfortable moments, like the suggestive duet performed by Garland's young daughter Liza Minnelli and her boyfriend Tracy Everitt, Everitt's bizarre crotch-accentuating sweater and a couple different Santa visits that feel more like home invasions. The special is available on YouTube. It's crazy.



3 Andy Williams and the NBC Kids Search for Santa

Speaking of baffling, the premise of Moon River singer Andy Williams' 1985 Christmas special was so unbelievably offside, it would never air today. The show features a 58-year-old Williams convincing several child actors from popular NBC sitcoms like The Cosby Show and Punky Brewster to run away with him. He takes the kids to Finland, where they proceed to spend time in a secluded cabin in the woods, all in an effort to track down Santa Claus. No, really. The singing and dancing displayed by the children is almost as frightening as the plotline. A young Joey Lawrence's performance is exceptionally awful. You can watch clips from the show on YouTube.



4 Mr. T and Emmanuel Lewis in a Christmas Dream

If you want to see a special so atrociously bad it's good, you need to watch Mr. T and Emmanuel Lewis' Christmas Dream from the mid-'80s. Yes, at one point in history, Emmanuel Lewis and Mr. T were big enough stars to warrant having their own primetime Christmas special. Lewis, riding high on Webster fame, plays a kid who's lost all of his holiday spirit. Mr. T plays one of Santa's lackeys who attempts to restore Lewis' festive cheer. The singing is as terrible as you can imagine, and the special's one notable guest, magician David Copperfield, comes across as a creep. It's a cheesy train wreck, but you can't look away. You can find clips of it on YouTube.



5 The Star Wars Holiday Special

All of the hype surrounding The Force Awakens this month reminded us of the most ridiculous, must-see Christmas special of all time, The Star Wars Holiday Special from 1978. Yes, this actually exists and it's beyond weird. Although this special is more plot-driven than the others we mentioned, it's still intended to be a wholesome family variety show, and features singing, comedy and celebrity guests. The special revolves around a disgruntled-looking Star Wars cast attempting to get Chewbacca home to his family in time to celebrate 'Life Day.' Bea Arthur, Art Carney, Jefferson Starship and other guest stars all make very confusing appearances in what was a blatant Star Wars cash-grab. It's so much of a mess that even George Lucas says he hates it! Look it up on YouTube.

Maya Rudolph is anti-social(media)



This photo shows John Leguizamo as Dave and Maya Rudolph as Brinda, in a scene from the film, *Sisters*, directed by Jason Moore. K.C. BAILEY/UNIVERSAL PICTURES VIA AP

Q & A

The SNL vet on *Sisters* and steering clear of social media

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood



When SNL vet Maya Rudolph isn't busy being hilarious — like in the new comedy *Sisters* alongside Tina Fey and Amy Poehler — she's busy raising her four young children with her husband, filmmaker Paul Thomas Anderson. So it's understandable why she doesn't have much time for social media. But even if she did, she'd avoid it all the same.

Your character, Brinda, has a major chip on her shoulder from high school. How was it playing that kind of long-held resentment?

It is fun. I think the insecurity of Brinda's character really is our own collective insecurity. Everybody wants to be invited to the party. That's sort of the worst possible feeling in terms of high school days. You don't want to be the person that's left off the list. I feel like with Brinda it's almost as if she was just waiting for Kate (played by Fey) to come back to her hometown so she could be like, "See? I've really got my life together."

It's interesting how that FOMO (fear of missing out) turned her into a mean girl. She has major FOMO. I just learned about FOMO. But everyone's got FOMO. Well, not everyone. Some people don't. Some people are actually content.

Twitter and Facebook have made it more pronounced. Yes. I don't dabble in those things. Maybe I was just born so early in the '70s that it's just so hard for me to relate to the idea of sharing everything. When I do see other people's Instagrams or Twitter, it's such a carefully edited version of themselves, so everything looks f—ing great. Everything is perfect. Your life is perfect. But also I don't want anybody to know my business.

And it's a lot of work.

I feel like if I was constantly doing that and not doing the other things I need to do, I would hate myself a little bit. I don't have enough time to do the things I'm supposed to be doing, so it would just feel like pure procrastination.

Has anyone ever pressured you to do it for work?

Yes. When I did my variety show, I was given a Twitter account... And so I announced it, like, "Hey! My show's coming on. You should watch it." And the response was so crazy. I obviously had not set up my settings correctly, but

people started responding and my phone would not stop. It felt weird.

That sounds terrifying.

It was. And I'm not used to it. I'm not good at it. I'm good at other things.

Such as?

Roller skating. But not ice skating. And I do not know how to rollerblade either.

How does this compare to crazy parties you've been to?

This is the craziest party. I mean, I did go to a lot of parties in high school. I grew up in L.A., and the thing to do was just go to random parties. You'd just go to somebody's house. It was so stupid, everything about it was dumb. The concept of it is just so screwed up. "Hey, there's a bunch of children in a home and the adults are gone and everyone's wasted!" That's a very, very dangerous, bad idea.

Do you think that new perspective has to do with being a grown-up and a parent?

That's the worst payback ever, actually having to think about that stuff. I don't have tattoos, but there was a time when I wanted one. And then my daughter, her cousin drew these dots on her face and I was like, "If you're going to get a tattoo you need to talk to me first. We need to have a conversation." What's happening to me? (laughs)

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The Shortest Day calls all the shorts



FREE FILM SERIES

Canadian films join in a global celebration of short movies

Shorter attention spans are spawning memorable movies.

That's how award-winning Toronto filmmaker and animator Sol Friedman sees it. His eight-minute film *Bacon & God's Wrath*, a whimsical

study of a 90-year-old Jewish woman weighing her decision to have her first taste of pork, is among 28 shorts screening in various locations during the free film series called The Shortest Day.

Started in France in 2011, The Shortest Day is now in 50 countries and is called a "celebration" of shorts, rather than a film fest.

The Canadian-made movies are bundled into four free programs: Dramas and Comedies; Kids; Family and Musical.

They screen Friday to Monday at more than 80 venues across Canada, from shopping malls to theatres, leading up to Tuesday's Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year. Go to theshortestday.ca for a list of programs, films and locations.

"This art form, which has always been on the periphery... is certainly having its moment," said Friedman, 33. He blends action and animation in *Bacon & God's Wrath*, along with a real pig's head that has

a "conversation" with Razie Brownstone about her musings on religion, family and why, with the help of some research on "the Google," she's ready to eat bacon.

Bacon & God's Wrath is also having its moment. After screening at TIFF, it will be part of the Sundance Film Festival's shorts program in January and was recently named one of Canada's Top 10 short films for 2015. Friedman

said he wanted to make a short on the subject and needed somebody willing to "break this taboo." He found it in Brownstone, a family friend.

It's an exciting time to be a filmmaker, he said, a bit like the Wild West. "With the tools being what they are, there's no excuse not to make a film if you're so inclined."

The shorts in the showcase are made using live action, stop-motion and animation techniques, and include Torill Kove's Oscar-nominated *Me*

and *My Moulton*, Cordell Barker's *If I Was God* and Tamara Segura's experimental short about music and memory, *Song for Cuba*.

Films from other filmmakers include *Call It Blue*, directed by Ryerson University's Julia Hendrickson, winner of Best Student Short at the Kerry (Ireland) Film Festival, and Amir Honarmand's *Be the Snow*, about a pillow that runs away from home to explore the world.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SCREENING

Some of the films screening for The Shortest Day from top: *Be the Snow*, *Call It Blue*, *Song for Cuba*, and *Bacon & God's Wrath*.



Q&A WITH ACTOR SARAH GADON



Inspired by long-vs.-short filmmaking, we set a challenge for Sarah Gadon, ambassador for The Shortest Day film celebration: give five-word answers to our long questions.

You have appeared in shorts and you made your directing debut with an episode of the Movie Network documentary series *Reel-side*, which could indeed be considered a short. Why do you think shorts are a good method for you to explore your creativity as an actress and filmmaker?

Shorts = less money to make. There are 28 shorts organ-

ized into four thematic programs. As someone who has worked so extensively with David Cronenberg (*Maps to the Stars*, *Cosmopolis*, *A Dangerous Method*), what would you call a program that was made up of Cronenberg shorts?
Indigestion: Brief Encounters With Pain (18A)

As The Shortest Day's 2015 English-language ambassador, do you see an ambassadorial role elsewhere for yourself now that you have the experience — perhaps in the diplomatic service, working at an embassy or

the United Nations, or as the Canadian ambassador to a country of your choosing?
Yes. Global film ambassador, please.

If there was an opportunity for a filmmaker to collaborate with you on a film project that could eventually become a short film about you and your life, perhaps your day-to-day existence and how you spend your free time away from the cameras, what would this short be titled?

Codependence: A Small Canadian & Caffeine (PG).



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H&M

TV BRIEF**Khloe Kardashian to help brokenhearted sculpt new bodies in TV series**

Khloe Kardashian is behind a new makeover series at the E! network, where she promises to help the brokenhearted get the "ultimate pay-back."

E! said Wednesday it had approved a six-episode series where one of the network's favourite sisters will be mentor people trying to turn their life around.

She calls the series *Revenge Body* with Khloe Kardashian. Looking great, she says, is always the best revenge for getting back at an ex.

The network did not say when the show will be on the air. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN**

Food doesn't factor large in that galaxy, far, far away. There's the scene on Tatooine where Luke drinks blue milk in his uncle and aunt's kitchen. There's the scene in the Mos Eisley cantina — a wretched hive of scum and villainy — where glowing cocktails are consumed. And there's the scene on Dagobah where Yoda breaks into Luke's kit rations and then Yoda cooks Luke a potent gruel in his hut.

Maybe that's because food is small potatoes compared to the sustenance of the Force. But that didn't stop my older brother from fashioning

My brother and I will be watching *The Force Awakens* wondering why no manufacturer ever released Aunt Beru's Blue Milk

pieces of white, crustless Wonder bread into "space pellets."

Star Wars was the first movie that he ever saw in a cinema. It was the summer of 1977. My dad took him. He was 5. George Lucas' mythology and his characters, who lived long ago in those perfectly patinated worlds, made an impression on him that is still strong today.

By 1980, I was old enough to join in, much to my brother's inconvenience, to see *The Empire Strikes Back*, and *Return of the Jedi*, too, three years later. I remember the Star Wars bed sheets and matching drapes; pushing his patience while he watched his VHS copies of the trilogy while I played Barbies and recited the sacred script before the characters did; and choreographing scenes in the backyard where I insisted on being Han Solo because he had the best lines.

THE MOVIE:
Star Wars series



THE MEMORY:
Jessica and her brother



I remember taking photos of each other posing like Jedi Knights with our Polaroid cameras and then rotoscoping the lightsabers with magic markers; and saying, "May the Force be with you" in lieu of "Good night" after our parents tucked us in.

But here's the thing: his experience, ours, is not singular. Multiply it by many, many millions. This is why I can't wait to see the box office numbers

this weekend after *Star Wars* Episode VII: *The Force Awakens* opens on Dec. 18. The film's teasers and trailers have been viewed over 400 million times. I'm not sure there's ever been anything like it.

Much of the anticipation stems from our collective reverence for the material and fondness for its messages. Some people suggest that if you watch the original trilogy now, as an adult, you'll notice

that Lucas didn't depart all that much in the three later prequels. It's just that his fan base had grown up and finally noticed how hokey his dialogue was.

I don't know about that. But I do know that our only hope is *The Force Awakens*' director J.J. Abrams, not to mention screenwriter Lawrence Kasdan, who penned both *Empire* and *Jedi*.

My brother bought our tickets — for me, him, our partners and my dad — in October. Only recently did we discover that our mother is having cataracts removed the same day. She knew how important the movie was and didn't want to be the cause of disrupting our plan. But Simon was adamant that he skip the movie to take her to and from the operation. Let that sit for a second: while my mother has surgery, her kids will be watching a movie — wondering why no manufacturer ever released Aunt Beru's Blue Milk — and a non-blood relation will tend to her.

"What is wrong with us?" My brother recently asked me. "I have no idea," I said. As for Simon? The Force is strong with that one.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

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DOCUMENTARY

Film looks inside the best restaurant in the world

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



Noma: My Perfect Storm may capture 33-months in the kitchen of Rene Redzepi's four-time winning Best Restaurant in the World, but Pierre Deschamps actually never set out to make a movie about food.

"The first goal was to focus on Redzepi," admitted the filmmaker ahead of the documentary's release in select theatres and on VOD.

"The backdrop is Noma. I didn't want to go too much into the making of the food itself because we have TV shows and they do that all the time. I was really trying to tell the story of a person in a specific context and what that person achieved."

Redzepi's accomplishments are certainly worth attention. The young Danish chef has not only run world-renowned Noma, a restaurant in Copenhagen, he also invented New Nordic Cuisine — an artistic, locally-based gastronomy that



The documentary **Noma: My Perfect Storm**, about the famous Copenhagen restaurant, is out on VOD today. CONTRIBUTED

relies heavily on seasonal ingredients and foraging. Perhaps more importantly, Deschamps explores how an ostracized Muslim youth battled racism and still seemingly suffers the insecurity of being an outsider — even as he runs the Best Restaurant in the World.

"I knew he has issues with racism (and) I knew with Noma, he was trying to do something different. The sum of those factors made him who he became," said Deschamps. "When you look at Redzepi's story, it's

a guy who climbed the ladder of success within a few years to become the God of Food — people will be surprised looking at the ups and downs."

Moviegoers will also see behind the curtain of one of the most celebrated kitchens on the planet. There may be scenes of Redzepi rejoicing his apprentices' gastronomic experiments, but they're equally balanced by brazen sequences of the famous chef emotional and unhinged.

"He knows me a bit — who



“It's a guy who climbed the ladder of success within a few years to become the God of Food

Pierre Deschamps on Rene Redzepi

I am and my philosophy about life. And he knows I wasn't going to dig into private stuff," admitted Deschamps about capturing such intimate moments on-screen. But the filmmaker

is also quick to credit Danish culture's broad respect for "tall poppy syndrome" for Redzepi's modesty as well.

"You need to make sure you respect everyone and you

MORE EATS
Top three restaurants in Canada:
Toque! - Montreal

This fun Montreal restaurant has focused on local ingredients for an inventive menu made of gastronomic delights like pan-seared foie gras and venison loin.

Hawthorn Restaurant - Vancouver

With its elegant interior, the décor of Hawthorn is as swanky as its French and West Coast-influenced cuisine, which ranges from entrees like parmesan-crusted chicken to grilled sturgeon with squid ink risotto.

Buca - Toronto

An Italian spin on fine-dining, executive chef Rob Gentile serves up such fare as hand-rolled ricotta gnocchi or crispy pigs' ears with fennel. Even famed chef Jamie Oliver once tweeted his "favourite meal of the year" was at this upscale alley-way eatery.

shouldn't think of yourself too much," explained Deschamps. "I think Rene has kept that sort of humility."

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Now playing


DRAMA/COMEDY
Sisters

Director: Jason Moore
Starring: Tina Fey, Amy Poehler

Two disconnected sisters are summoned home to clean out their childhood bedroom before their parents sell the family house. Looking to recapture their glory days, they throw one final high-school-style party for their classmates.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **89%** **Audience:** **96%**


DRAMA
In The Heart of the Sea

Director: Ron Howard
Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Benjamin Walker

In the winter of 1820, the New England whaling ship Essex was assaulted by something no one could believe: a whale of mammoth size and will. The real-life disaster would inspire Herman Melville's Moby-Dick.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **60%** **Audience:** **70%**


ANIMATION/KIDS
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip

Director: Walt Becker
Starring: Justin Long, Matthew Gray Gubler

Through a series of misunderstandings, Alvin, Simon and Theodore come to believe that Dave is going to propose to his new girlfriend in New York City... and dump them.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **8%** **Audience:** **82%**


ART HOUSE/INTERNATIONAL
The Legend

Director: Brian Helgeland
Starring: Tom Hardy, Emily Browning

The true story of the rise and fall of London's most notorious gangsters, Reggie and Ronnie Kray, who captivated the public and once upon a time lorded over a criminal empire. An integral part of London's East End, and the iconic Swinging Sixties.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **60%** **Audience:** **73%**


ACTION & ADVENTURE
Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Director: J.J. Abrams
Starring: Harrison Ford, Daisy Ridley

In this continuation of the Star Wars saga, balance returns to the Force as the First Order, emerging from the ashes of the Empire, clashes with the Resistance, which includes newcomers and heroes from the former Rebel Alliance.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **94%** **Audience:** **99%**


ANIMATION
The Good Dinosaur

Director: Peter Sohn
Starring: Raymond Ochoa, Jeffrey Wright

What if the cataclysmic asteroid that forever changed life on Earth actually missed the planet completely and giant dinosaurs never became extinct?

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **81%** **Audience:** **81%**



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Rules to live by, as told by a knight

INTERVIEW

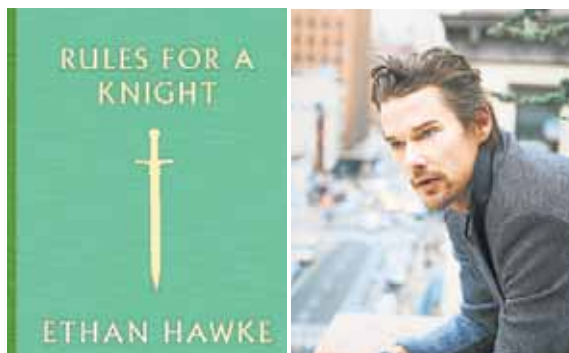
Hawke says he drew on many sources for stories' wisdom

Actor-author Ethan Hawke took on modern-day parenting challenges with the help of a fictitious 15th-century Cornish knight.

His young adult book, *Rules for a Knight*, grew from Hawke's "tinkering" with stories he had written over the years for his own kids. The parables take the form of a letter from the knight, introduced as Hawke's ancestor, to his four children about living purposeful, ethical lives as he prepares to go into battle.

"It's a dialogue about some entry-level philosophical ideas that I think could be nice for young people," Hawke, 45, said.

They're warm and simply, yet effectively, written, although Hawke insists: "I have no ownership over any of these stories... I really view myself as the editor



Ethan Hawke says *Rules for a Knight* came about through tinkering with stories he wrote for his kids. HANDOUT

book — among them Muhammad Ali, Vince Lombardi, Eleanor Roosevelt, *Boyhood* and *Before Sunrise* trilogy director Richard Linklater and late actor River Phoenix.

Like the knight in the book, Hawke has four children: daughter Maya, 17, and son Levon, 13, with ex-wife Uma Thurman and daughters Clementine, 7, and 4-year-old Indiana with wife Ryan Hawke.

He liked to use these stories

to spark conversations with his kids about rules and behaviours.

"They're hard conversations to have, and part of it for me, doing a lot of my parenting from the handicapped vantage point of a divorcee... I'd be apart from the kids," Hawke explained.

"I have them every other weekend and there are all these things I wanted to talk about and they never come up on their own."

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Canuck cartoonist on Jughead reboot

COMICS

Writer-artist talks working with childhood favourites

As a kid in Barrie, Ont., cartoonist Steve Murray had an affinity for Archie Comics wry guy Jughead Jones, Marvel's anthropomorphic Howard the Duck and, of course, Star Wars.

Now the writer-artist is a part of those very worlds, thanks to a skyrocketing comic book career that has him so busy, he jokes: "It's not a good move."

"It's not good for my health, it's not good for my relationship, it's not good for anyone, really," Murray, who goes by the pseudonym Chip Zdarsky, said with a laugh in a recent phone interview from his Toronto home.

Indeed, the former National Post illustrator and columnist has enough projects on the go to even rattle the seemingly unflappable Jughead.

He's writing the rebooted Jughead series for Archie Comics, which launched in October, as well as a new Howard the Duck Marvel Comics book series that kicked off in March.

Meanwhile, he continues to illustrate his hit series Sex Criminals, which won a Will Eisner Comic Industry Award and has been optioned for a TV pilot by Universal Television.

And he recently drew a variant cover for issue No. 1 of Marvel's Star Wars: Vader Down comic.

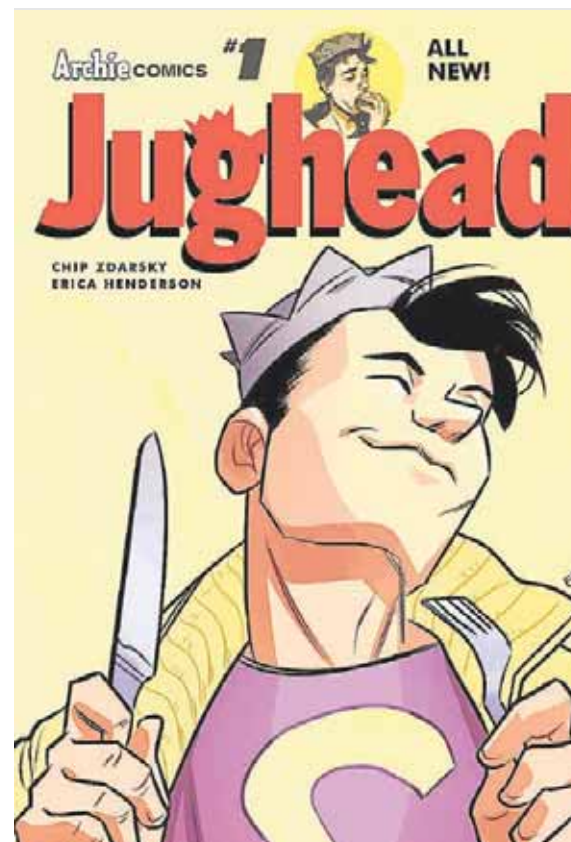
The rare cover, featuring Darth Vader and Jaxxon the green rabbit, went gangbusters on the auction circuit: one copy recently sold on eBay for about \$3,700 US and another sold for \$4,000 during an online auction set up by Canada Cares. The latter sale will help support a Syrian refugee family's journey to Toronto.

Murray, whose other comics include Prison Funnies and Monster Cops, developed a passion for drawing as a child.

"I didn't do too well in art in high school, I think just because I always wanted to draw comics," said Murray, "so anything else I tried to turn into a comic book and the teacher would get upset with me."

While studying art at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ont., he had to do a 3-D recreation of a 2-D work of art. He built a comic frame around himself, had a speech balloon pointed at his head and impersonated Jughead.

"I recreated a panel from a Jughead comic just because of my affinity for the character,"



The burger-loving character gets a makeover in the new comic series written by Chip Zdarsky. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

he said. "I think I got a C-plus. I don't think the teacher quite considered Jughead 'art.'"

An ironic notion now, given the fame the easygoing, burger-loving character has brought Murray on the convention circuit.

Murray said Archie Comics felt he was a good fit for Jughead because of his Chip Zdarsky online persona as well as some comical banter he had on Facebook with his hometown Applebee's restaurant that went viral last year.

"The Archie crew saw that as a very Jughead-style thing," he said, "and in my youth I kind of

looked more like Jughead — but the burgers catch up to you."

In the new series, Murray has kept Jughead's smarts and asexual nature but amped up his sarcasm. "Part of the comic is teaching Jughead that there's more to the world than his narrow view of it," he said.

Murray's involvement with Howard the Duck also harkens back to his childhood.

"Howard the book I loved as a kid, so it was pretty easy to come up with ideas for the pitch," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BOOKS

Edmonton-born Steve Murray, a.k.a. Chip Zdarsky, has been busy.

Murray is writing the rebooted Jughead series for Archie Comics, which launched in October, as well as a new Howard the Duck Marvel Comics book series that kicked off in March. He's also penning "a sci-fi 'Wizard of Oz' saga" for Image Comics called Kaptara, with the first issue due out Dec. 23.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



6

GIFTS FOR THE MUSIC NERD ON YOUR LIST

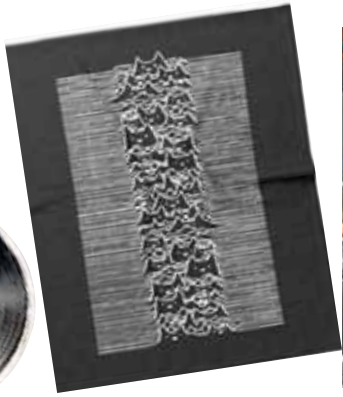
With a week to go before Christmas, we're in the Red Zone when it comes to panic shopping. What to buy the music fan/musician who has everything? Fear not because Alan Cross is here to offer gift suggestions for all budgets. **ALAN CROSS/METRO**



1 Cufflinks

OK, so cufflinks aren't as popular as they once were, but for \$13.50 US, I found a pair on Etsy that looks like tiny vinyl records.

Website: etsy.com/shop/monedus



2 Album Artwork Blanket

Society6 has a nice selection of throws depicting blown-up versions of classic albums. I'm stuck between one based on My Bloody Valentine's Loveless and another of Unknown Pleasures from Joy Division. For \$49 US, you could opt for both.

Website: society6.com/throw-blankets



3 Blood-spitting KISS doll

While KISS action figures date back to the '70s, the new 2015 edition of the Gene doll comes with "BLOOD SPITTING ACTION." It can be yours for \$69.99 US from Figures Toy Company.

Website: figurestoycompany.com



4 Jack White's turntable for kids

You can bestow the pleasure of vinyl on your kids with a bright yellow portable turntable from Jack White's Third Man Records. Officially called Manny's Children's Turntable, it plays albums, 45s and 78s and comes with a USB port for converting vinyl into MP3s. A steal at \$89.95 US.

Website: thirdmanstore.com



5 Music-themed toilet seats

Jammin' Johns, a company that promises "music to your rear," offers a selection of toilet seats with lids shaped like an acoustic guitar, a grand piano or the backside of a Fender Strat. You can view them all in the company's Throne Room (seriously). Expect to spend at least \$200 US.

Website: jamminjohns.com

6 Sennheiser Orpheus Headphones

These 'phones from Sennheiser combine vacuum tube and solid-state technology. Frequency response is 8-100,000 Hz, which reproduces sound bats can't hear. Just under \$76,000. Merry Christmas, one percent.

Website: en-de.sennheiser.com/orpheus

SPONSORED CONTENT

50 years of quality care from Gimbel

Top-notch procedures and consistent innovation has led Gimbel Eye Centre to a rare feat of providing 50 years of quality eye service to Albertans.

It's a rare accomplishment but the special milestone is the result of outstanding patient care and technological advancement, according to Gimbel's Chief Operating Officer Gregg Becker.

"Our world-class procedures and innovation has propelled us forward as leaders in the provision of safe, high-quality and cost-effective eye surgery," Becker says, adding that the teams combine for over 500 years of experience."

Gimbel provides a thorough assessment process, taking the time and tests needed to ensure they provide the best options for each of their patients. The centres use all-laser technologies for refractive surgery, which provides the safest results and great vision at prices that are always competitive.

"Our surgeons began practicing in the



ISTOCK

areas of cataract and refractive laser surgery when the field was relatively new, and are well known world-wide as innovators in surgical practice, and the procedures they pioneered are now common across the industry," Becker adds.

Gimbel Eye Centre has recently added a new procedure called KAMRA Inlay to help restore near vision.

"It's used to help patients reduce or eliminate their use of reading glasses. This has been done widely in other parts of Canada and the world, but is relatively new in Western Canada."

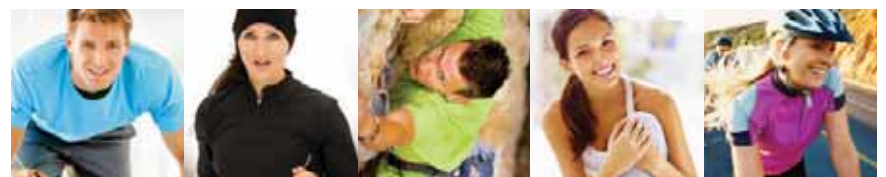
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Amidst all the excitement surrounding the seventh and final installment of the Star Wars franchise, Carrie Fisher admits her greatest fears about returning to set. CONTRIBUTED

In quotes: Stars on making of Star Wars

J.J. Abrams (Director)

Coming onboard: "This is a project that I felt incredibly lucky to be asked to be a part of. I think I speak for all of us, except for maybe Harrison, when I say this was not a job," he says before laughing. "I'm kidding, Harrison was unbelievable. But the process of this movie — to a person on the crew, to a person on the cast — this was not a job. This was nothing that I think any one of us took on because it was a gig that was available. It was something that felt like a true passion."

The guiding principle: "At the very beginning, it was about knowing why we were telling this story, and it was to give people that sense of possibility and magic that we all felt when we first saw the



original Star Wars movies," he explains. "It's not a nostalgia trip. We had to go backwards in order to go forwards."

His worst day at work: "The scariest day, for me, was when Harrison Ford was injured, which is just absolutely hideous," Abrams remembers. "But every day felt like there were challenges, because I knew how important this was to so many people. That was never a presence that went away."

Carrie Fisher (General Leia Organa)

Biggest fears going into the new movie: "Bad memory. Not remembering my lines. That was scary," the outspoken Fisher says. "I'm the custodian of Princess Leia, so I never got out of character, and I wondered if that would be noticed. No, I was very nervous. It's been 40 years. It's been a long time. I don't like looking at myself at this age in a large way, so that was scary, and remains so."

Fastest to set: "How long did it take to get into costume? About 10 minutes. I'm older, I do it faster," she says with a laugh. "No, really, 20 minutes. I have a kind of classy gas station attendant look (in this movie). Or I would say I was an airplane



“
I'm the custodian of Princess Leia... I was very nervous. It's been 40 years. It's been a long time.

repair mechanic, with a nice vest over that. And different hair than most airplane mechanics would normally have."

Harrison Ford (Han Solo)

Coming back: "It's always nice to anticipate working on something that you know people will have an appetite for. This is not a crap shoot. This is a big casino, and it's fun to play with these toys again," Ford says of returning to the franchise. "It seemed easy to come back to the character. Clothes make the man. I've walked more than a mile in those boots. I was interested in the described path of the character. I thought there was an interesting bit of business for the character to do."

Helping the kids: "I'm not going to tell them how to navigate this very personal space of trying to figure out the careers that they've chosen for themselves," Ford says of John Boyega, Daisy



Ridley and Oscar Isaac. "It's bizarrely individual how you navigate the space between where they're at now and the rest of your useful professional life. But they're in for a big ride, and they know it, I think."

Tough crowd at home: "My kids do not think I'm cool at all," Ford says with a laugh. "Being in this movie is not going to convince them otherwise. They're just glad to see that Dad is still working."

WHERE SANTA LIVES



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A cultural getaway to Montreal



The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts is putting the spotlight on the Beaver Hall Group, a female artist ensemble based in the city in the 1920s. KATHY BUCKWORTH/FOR METRO

IN 48 HOURS

Art, history and French-inspired flavours await in dynamic city

Kathy Buckworth
For Metro Canada



Montreal has an international reputation for fabulous cuisine, fantastic shopping and fine arts. You only need spend 48 hours to get a taste of this trendy and growing city, which has rightfully earned a UNESCO City of Design designation.

Day 1

In the heart of the city you'll find the Golden Square Mile, running from Avenue Atwater to rue Saint-Denis, world-famous for its concentration of art boutiques. Start your day with the city's best-known "power breakfast" hot spot, Le Renoir at the Sofitel Hotel. Walk a few scenic blocks down the street to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. The wonderfully curated "Colours of Jazz" exhibition runs until Jan. 31, featuring the unique brushstrokes of the predominantly female artist ensemble the Beaver Hall Group, who painted in a Modernist style in the 1920s.

Lunch at the café at the museum is both French and modern fusion inspired; blood pudding, Moroccan octopus and seasonal fare are just some of



Le Renoir restaurant at the Sofitel Hotel. SOFTEL PR

the elegantly plated feature dishes. Save room for the exotic assortment of desserts.

Put your power shoes on to head out for an afternoon of shopping at some of the country's most exclusive shops, including Tiffany's, Gucci, Escada, and Montreal's own favourite department store, Simons.

Unload your shopping and head into Le Bar, a hopping bistro that attracts both young millennials and senior executives, featuring a line of apple-based Neige cider drinks and an eclectic bar menu, showcasing their famous charcuterie board and tasty local Quebec cheeses.

Day 2

Stop for a croissant at one of the many aromatic bistros and bakeries on rue Sainte-Catherine, before heading for your next museum hit at the McCord Museum, which specializes in the preservation of Canadian history, as well as offering fun

and educational children's programming. Want to feel like a lady who lunches? Be one by dropping into the Holt Renfrew lunchroom, and linger over a drink before planning your next shopping move.

Relax in your room at the Sofitel and order an in-room spa treatment, or if you're looking for a true rural Quebec experience in the midst of your urban visit, head to La Face Cachée de la Pomme, an hour outside of Montreal, and the birthplace of ice cider. Extreme cold temperatures allow for the creation of this unique drink experience, and exemplifies what they call "Quebec culture in a bottle." Tours are available and their foie gras, made with ice cider, is a particular treat, perfect for the end of an artisanal- and action-packed two days.

Kathy Buckworth was a guest of the Sofitel Hotel, Montreal.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

'Tis the season... to snorkel with seals on Snake Island

Snorkelling with harbour seals may seem like an unlikely Canadian wintertime activity, but tourism officials in Nanaimo say it's definitely doable.

A local dive company, Sundown Diving, takes visitors to Snake Island for the experience, providing the necessary equipment such as wetsuit, gloves, mask and snorkel. The island is a 15-minute boat ride from Nanaimo off the east coast of Vancouver Island.

Company owner Ed Singer says there are way fewer tourists on his \$100-per-person tours

now than in the summer, and the water is certainly chillier, but there is more to see.

"The water is clearer at this time of year. You're seeing more marine life, and you can see the seals swimming around under the water at a distance," Singer said.

"In the summer or spring when the visibility might be poor, often you're just seeing the seals coming close to you when their heads are above water."

He said his guests spend about 45 minutes in the water

now, somewhat less than in the summer. No special skills are required.

"They don't have to be great swimmers because the suit is very buoyant, so they're gonna float for sure."

Not just a summer destination

Tourism Nanaimo wants potential visitors to know that the city is not just a summertime destination. It says year-round experiences include:

- The self-guided Nanaimo Bar

Trail, along which you can taste variations of the sweet treat. The 2015 Nanaimo Bar Trail brochure has 34 stops.

- Culinary tours, which also drop in on breweries and wineries. Operators include Vancouver Island Expeditions, Tracks Outdoor Adventures and Harbour City Transportation.

- The Nanaimo Museum, where permanent exhibits include a replica coal mine shaft. In Decem-

ber the museum is presenting "Christmas in the Golden Age of Radio," featuring its radio collection.

- The Cedar Yellow Point Artisan Trail, highlighting artists who craft one-of-a-kind items.

- Gabriola Island, a short ferry ride away. Besides arts and dining options on the island, there are also Christmas craft fairs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



3 WAYS TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR AROUND THE WORLD

Not many days from now, the planet will bid farewell to 2015 and welcome 2016 with open arms. We're taking a world tour of the big cities where New Year's is a major cause for celebration. Let's take a look at what's planned in London, New York and Rio de Janeiro. **AFP**



BEN STANSALL/AFP

1 London, U.K.

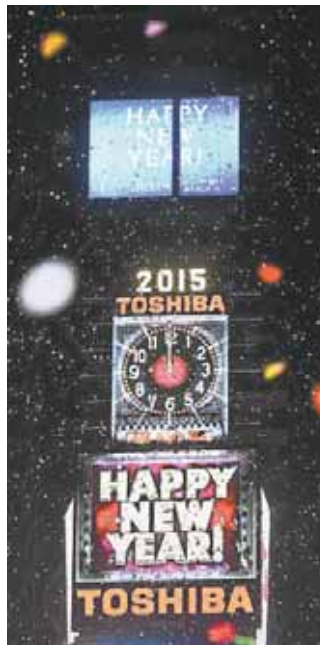
The U.K. capital celebrates New Year's on the banks of the River Thames, opposite the Palace of Westminster. Unfortunately, since 2014 visitors need a ticket to watch the spectacular firework show above Big Ben, a decision taken last year to ensure spectator safety. All the tickets have now been snapped up. The show begins at 5 p.m. and ends at 2 a.m.

The place to be: London Eye, The Queen's Walk

Watch it at home: Those unable to get a ticket will be able to watch the show on the BBC One TV channel, which broadcasts it live.

>> london.gov.uk

JEWEL SAMAD/AFP



2 New York, U.S.A.

The Big Apple is a must-do for those who want to celebrate 2016 in style. The entertainment is concentrated in Times Square where all the famous brightly lit billboards form part of the event. The lineup of performers this year include Carrie Underwood, Demi Lovato, Luke Bryan, and Wiz Khalifa with Charlie Puth.

The place to be: Times Square

Practical tips: It's better to arrive early to be sure to get a place and see the Times Square ball drop. It's advisable to take Sixth or Eighth Avenues to get to Times Square. The police close the adjacent roads.

>> timesquarenyc.org

GUSTAVO PELLIZZON/AG/AF



3 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

New Year's in Rio is the second-biggest popular event in the city, after its mythical carnival. More than two million people attend. There's a firework display at midnight that lasts for around 20 minutes. This year the display and soundtrack will be themed around the Olympics, set to take place in August 2016 in the city.

The place to be: Copacabana Beach

Safety precautions: It's better to wear shoes rather than sandals. As the celebrations take place on the beach and champagne will be flowing, there could be fragments of glass in the sand.

>> rio.com

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Startup tour company Embark is a booking site with a difference: It's an adventure-sharing platform that lets you create, share and book adventures around the world with other like-minded adventurous people. The growing network of local guides is ready to take you skiing, hiking, ice climbing, camping, kayaking or fly fishing, person to person. Visit Embark.org.



The world is your oyster. STOCKSNAP

Space on Earth

You can actually visit the barren lands seen in Star Wars: Episode VII. Filmmakers chose the sand dunes of Abu Dhabi to shoot the desert scenes, in particular the Empty Quarter desert, which has the world's largest uninterrupted sand mass. Insight Vacations offers a four-day stopover in Dubai that includes a four-wheel drive trek into Abu Dhabi and its nearby sandy film set. Visit InsightVacations.com.



Episode VII stars the dunes of Abu Dhabi. CONTRIBUTED

Santa's hometown

While the folklore spans multiple cultures, the Turkish seaside town of Demre lays claim to being the birthplace of St. Nicholas in 270 AD. He was known for his charity and secret gift-giving to the poor. Visitors can see frescoes depicting the saint's life and work in the Church of St. Nicholas, a solid example of Byzantine architecture. Visit GoTurkey.com. DOUG WALLACE



The Church of St. Nicholas in Demre, Turkey. CONTRIBUTED



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Light up the eyes of gamers

Marc Saltzman

'Tis the season to be jolly, and what better way to keep the kids — and kids at heart — happy than with a brand new video game. If it's console and computer gamers you're shopping for, the following are some thumb-numbing suggestions. Prices are generally \$49.99 to \$74.99, depending on the platform. Be sure to check the ESRB age-rating in the corner of the box before buying.

Kids

Most games let you play content created by other people, but Nintendo's Super Mario Maker (for Nintendo Wii U) also lets you design, create and share your very own Super Mario adventures. Along with the 60-odd playable Nintendo-made levels, the game includes tools to make two-dimensional platforming levels based on previous Super Mario games.

As you might suspect, you'll



Nintendo's Yoshi's Woolly World

mostly run from the left side of the screen to the right, leap across platforms, break open power-ups, climb into pipes, and jump on enemies to destroy them. After you've designed a world, play it through, hand the controller to a sibling or friend, or upload to the online community. You can download other creations, too.

One of the world's hottest kids' franchises is getting a reboot. Activision's Skylanders SuperChargers (for multiple platforms) once again fuses action figures with a video game — the toys come alive on the television screen when placed on the Portal of Power, which is connected to the console — but now there's collectible vehicles added to the mix. Players can tackle missions

by land, sea and air, in a number of customizable and upgradeable vehicles, including cars, motorcycles, boats, tanks, helicopters and submarines. The game also introduces 20 new Skylanders characters, but parents will be relieved to learn the game also supports all existing Skylanders characters. Other kids' games that won't disappoint: Nintendo's Yoshi's Woolly World, Disney's Disney Infinity 3.0, WB Games' LEGO: Dimensions, and Sony's Tearaway Unfolded.

Teens

Launching just ahead of the film Star Wars: Episode VII — The Force Awakens, Star Wars Battlefront from DICE and Electronic Arts (PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Windows PC) drops players into



Star Wars Battlefront

intense intergalactic battles based in iconic Star Wars locations — such as the snowy planet of Hoth — pitting Rebel forces against the Empire.

Along with playing as characters based on the original movie trilogy, you'll pilot beloved vehicles, as well, ranging from AT-ATs and TIE fighters to speeder bikes and even the Millennium Falcon. The game includes many online multiplayer modes and mission types for dozens of simultaneous players.

Guitar Hero is back after a five-year hiatus and it's nothing short of ambitious. Along with single-player and local multiplayer options, Activision's Guitar Hero Live (for multiple platforms) introduces a mode called GHTV, an always-on 24-hour music video



Bethesda Softworks' Fallout 4

network that lets you log on, strap in and strum to a continually updated collection of music videos and concert footage. That is — instead of the cartoon-like animated bands from previous games — you can rock out to your favorite artists and discover new music, while challenging others for high score.

Other recommended games for teens: Sony's Uncharted: The Nathan Drake Collection, EA Sports' NHL 16, and Activision's Destiny: The Taken King.

Adults

One of the most buzzed about games of the year, Bethesda Softworks' Fallout 4 (Xbox One, PlayStation 4, Windows PC), is the long-awaited return to the beloved single-player, open-world,

role-playing game series. The follow-up to 2008's Fallout 3 lets you choose to play as a male or female and select a specific set of skills, and then venture out of a vault 200 years after an apocalyptic event. Played from a first- or third-person perspective, you can freely roam around huge environments, interface with memorable characters and gain access to more than 50 base weapons and more than 700 modifications. Plus, gamers can take advantage of a deep crafting system to create unique adventures.

The next installment of the legendary sci-fi shooter franchise, Halo 5: Guardians, is the built to showcase the power of Xbox One. Complementing its intense storyline — which can be run with three friends in a cooperative (co-op) mode — this new game focuses heavily on competitive multiplayer. One mode called Warzone challenges up to 24 players to battle on the biggest maps in Halo to date, while taking on multiple objectives including big boss battles, with land and air craft to aid in the fight.



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Consoles that make the gift list



Mike Yawney

It doesn't matter how young or old you are; video games continue to be a dominant pastime. While no new gaming consoles launched this year, some unique limited edition bundles did surface. Here are the top picks for those looking to surprise a gamer on their gift list.

Xbox One Limited Edition Halo 5: Guardians Console - \$549

There is no denying the Halo franchise is a force to be reckoned with, so it comes as no surprise Microsoft is releasing this limited edition Xbox One console for the holidays.

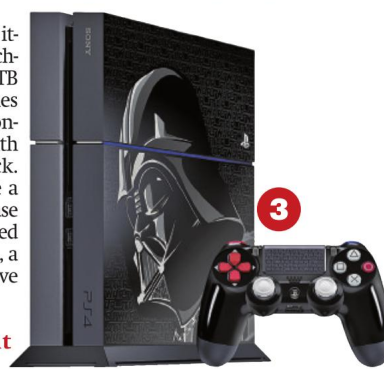


New Nintendo 3DS XL - \$229.99

The design of the console itself is inspired by Spartan technology and has a massive 1 TB hard drive to store your games and media. The wireless controller also sees a redesign with a new 3.5-mm headset jack. Other bonus items include a Spartan-themed SteelBook case with Halo 5: Guardians Limited Edition full game download, a Guardian model and exclusive downloadable content.

Star Wars Battlefront PlayStation 4 Console - \$469.99

The ultimate PlayStation bundle for any Star Wars fan, this unique console bears the image of Darth Vader's mask, while the DualShock wireless controller is designed after his chest panel. Not only does this come with the highly anticipated Star Wars Battlefront game, it also includes four additional classic Star Wars games to keep even the best gamers busy over the holidays.



Nintendo's latest handheld console features not only a larger screen for more immersive gameplay, but new technology. Super stable 3D allows for a better experience and wider range of viewing angles. The handheld device also features built-in NFC functionality for communication with Nintendo's new Amiibo figures.

- 1 Xbox One Limited Edition Halo 5: Guardians Console, \$549
- 2 New Nintendo 3DS XL, \$229.99
- 3 Star Wars Battlefront PlayStation 4 Console, \$469.99



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Cleveland Cavaliers guard Iman Shumpert calmly delivered his daughter when his fiancée unexpectedly went into labour in their bathroom

Full face shields still unwelcome

NHL

Despite latest gory Hamhuis scene, visors are still preferred

The gruesome sight of Dan Hamhuis on the ice with his legs flailing made fellow NHL players cringe. A shot like the one that cracked the Vancouver Canucks defenceman in the face

could happen to anyone.

Hamhuis is out two months after surgery to repair facial fractures. Even though he wears a visor like a vast majority of the league now, it couldn't save him when a slap shot from the New York Rangers' Dan Boyle hit him in the jaw from close range.

Only a full face shield or cage could have prevented that injury. The league and Players' Association only two years ago mandated visors for incoming players, but there could be a

day in the distant future when full facial protection like in youth, college and women's hockey, is commonplace in the NHL.

"It's probably the next step," San Jose Sharks coach Peter DeBoer said. "No one thought helmets were coming in and they did, and then no one thought visors were coming

in and they did. I'm sure there will be a day down the road one day here where it is (normal)."

“

I think it's a ways off. It'll get here one day.

Sharks coach Peter DeBoer

Canucks coach Willie Desjardins said recently that "you forget how vicious the game is sometimes" and recalled Hamhuis experiencing a near miss of a puck whizzing by his visor two games earlier.

"That happens on a regular basis and it's probably surprising that maybe more guys don't get hit," Desjardins said.

Current players are conflicted on the subject but are in agreement that full face shields aren't coming any time soon. Toronto Maple Leafs defenceman Matt Hunwick called the Hamhuis injury a "freak accident," even if similar plays happen often.

Go into any locker-room and there are a handful of players who remember losing teeth or

breaking bones from an errant stick or a puck. It's basically the only way anyone in the NHL now puts on a full face shield.

Philadelphia Flyers forward Sam Gagner, who recently suffered a concussion when his head hit the ice, remembers breaking his jaw in 2013 and was no fan of wearing the full shield.

"It hinders you," Gagner said. "Your vision of the puck, it throws that off a bit."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



BLACKHAWKS BLITZ OILERS The Blackhawks' Artemi Panarin shoots in the face of Oilers' Darnell Nurse in Chicago on Thursday night. Corey Crawford made 33 saves in his NHL-best fifth shutout, Teuvo Teravainen had two goals and an assist, and the Blackhawks won 4-0. Jonathan Toews added a goal and two assists in a strong performance by Chicago's top line.

JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES

Quick withstands Habs' barrage

Jonathan Quick made a season-high 45 saves as the Los Angeles Kings shut out the Montreal Canadiens 3-0 on Thursday night.

The shutout was Quick's second of the season. Anze Kopitar, Drew Doughty and Marian Gaborik, in an empty net, scored for the Kings (20-9-2).

Mike Condon, who has now lost his last four starts, made 17 saves for Montreal (20-10-3).

The Canadiens have lost six of their last seven games, scoring just 11 goals over that stretch.

Quick was sensational throughout the game, as Montreal fired a season-high 45 pucks his way, including 18 in the first period.

The 29-year-old Quick stopped Tomas Plekanec with the glove late in the first, and denied Torrey Mitchell from

+ WILD WIN

Dubnyk victorious in return from groin strain

Devan Dubnyk made 21 saves in his return to action and Mikko Koivu had two goals and an assist for the Minnesota Wild in a 5-2 win over the New York Rangers on Thursday night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

point blank range in the second.

Quick really shone in the third — stopping 15 shots to preserve the shutout. He made an acrobatic stop at 2:30 to poke the puck off the goal-line after a shot by Habs captain Max Pacioretty. Minutes later, Quick made a pad save on Alex Galchenyuk on a breakaway.

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CFL

Orridge nixes move by Als coach

Noel Thorpe's reported resignation as defensive co-ordinator of the Montreal Alouettes was declared invalid Thursday by the Canadian Football League.

A statement from commissioner Jeffrey Orridge said Thorpe, who was also assistant head coach, cannot get out of his contract to join another club without written approval from the Alouettes. Thorpe was expected to accept the same job titles with Edmonton.

It also said that the Eskimos "did not violate the existing CFL by-laws and will not be subject to any discipline in this matter."

“

He's under contract for three years and we expect him to fulfill that. If he wants to work in the CFL he has a contract.

Alouettes GM Jim Popp

Orridge placed a moratorium on the movement of coaches between teams on Wednesday after reports that Thorpe decided to leave the Alouettes to join the Eskimos, despite having two years left on his contract. It prohibits coaches under contract signing with another club without his written approval.

Thorpe made a statement to TSN on Wednesday saying he had met with Alouettes president Mark Weightman and came away feeling they had agreed to part ways. He added that he had quit the Alouettes before the league moratorium was announced. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Series in Shapiro's sights

MLB OFF-SEASON

New front-office boss says Blue Jays are a title contender

Compared to the last few years, the Toronto Blue Jays have had a relatively quiet off-season.

There have been a few signings and some trade activity but the Blue Jays have so far steered clear of the free-agent frenzy and any blockbuster moves. Las Vegas still likes Toronto's chances in 2016, with most sports books pegging them among the favourites to win the American League.

New team president Mark Shapiro is also feeling bullish about the Blue Jays' chances.

"It feels like a team capable of winning the World Series next year," Shapiro said Thursday.

The Boston Red Sox have emerged as a slight favourite in the AL after the signing of former Blue Jays ace David Price, who inked a seven-year deal



Top playoff performer Marco Estrada will provide stability to the starting rotation when the Jays return to action in the spring. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

worth \$217 million US. The Blue Jays are in the mix of AL contenders with the Houston Astros, Kansas City Royals and Texas Rangers.

Toronto is coming off a 93-

69 season and its first playoff appearance in 22 years. They fell to the Royals in the ALCS in six games.

Toronto will bring back arguably the most feared offence in

the major leagues in 2016, anchored by sluggers Jose Bautista, Edwin Encarnacion and AL MVP Josh Donaldson. On the pitching front, the Jays lost Price to free agency but re-signed Marco

10-1

On website Bet365, Toronto and Boston are co-favourites among AL teams to win the Fall Classic at 10-1.

Estrada, signed free agent J.A. Happ and acquired Jesse Chavez in a trade with Oakland.

New GM Ross Atkins said the team has been engaged in discussions on several fronts.

"We are going to stay open-minded and if there is a way that we can creatively just add depth to our pitching or fortify our pitching staff, we'll do it," Atkins said.

Shapiro, Atkins and assistant GM Tony LaCava met with members of the Toronto chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association of America on Thursday.

Shapiro said the possibility of Rogers Centre moving from artificial turf to grass is being considered but there are no firm plans in place. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

No joking around for Beckham in showdown with 'Batman'

Odell Beckham Jr. promises that no matter what cleats he wears against the Panthers on Sunday, his matchup with Josh Norman could be one for the books.

It would have been apropos had the Giants wide receiver reprised Monday night's Miami footwear that carried the image of The Joker as a counter to Norman's "Batman" nickname.

But Beckham said Thursday he doesn't want to play the name game against Carolina (13-0).

"I don't need no Batman or anything else," said Beckham,



Odell Beckham Jr.'s Joker cleats. GETTY IMAGES

who wears a pair of custom cleats every game, thus leaving him with an interesting collection at career's end. "I'll be able to look back and remember special moments, like when did I wear these? It's a lot of fun."

Sunday's choice could stick out, especially if Beckham Jr. has a big game against the Panthers' shutdown cornerback. Norman has four interceptions this year, two returned for touchdowns. But just as impressive is the way he has neutralized top receivers.

Houston's DeAndre Hopkins, Dallas' Dez Bryant, and Atlanta's Julio Jones have 215 catches among them for 2,969 yards and 19 TDs. Against Norman, however, they have a mere seven receptions for 63 yards and no TDs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer in Brief

Buchanan usurps Sinclair as Canada's top player

Young defender Kadeisha Buchanan, who put her stamp on the world stage in 2015, has been named Canadian women's soccer player of the year.

The 20-year-old centre back from Brampton, Ont., was chosen in voting by Canadian media and coaches. The male player of the year will be announced Friday.

Christine Sinclair, who finished third in voting, had 11 straight Canadian female player of the year awards since 2004. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mourinho takes fall for Chelsea's nightmare start

Jose Mourinho's second tenure as Chelsea manager abruptly ended on Thursday with the team languishing just above the relegation zone only seven months after winning the Premier League.

Mourinho's dismissal comes 2-1/2 years after his return to Stamford Bridge and only four months into a new four-year contract signed after winning his third league championship with Chelsea. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Mexican Egg Bake



PHOTO: MAMA USNETE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

• 1/2 cup Greek yogurt

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 F.
2. In a medium-sized skillet, warm olive oil and sauté the onion and garlic until they begin to soften. Add spices and stir; cook 2 minutes. Add tomatoes and black beans. Use the back of a wooden spoon to break up tomatoes. Simmer for about 15 or 20 minutes until sauce has thickened.
3. Gently crack the eggs on top of the sauce. Place skillet in the oven for 8 to 10 minutes, or until egg whites are cooked but yolks are runny.
4. Remove pan from oven and allow to cool a bit before placing on a trivet on the table. Scoop each serving gently, being sure to get an egg and a good amount of the bean sauce. Place extras — avocado, yogurt, cheese and cilantro — on table so everyone can DIY toppings.

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A zesty tomato sauce punctuated with avocado and cilantro is the perfect bed for runny, baked eggs.

Ready in

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes

Serves 4

Ingredients

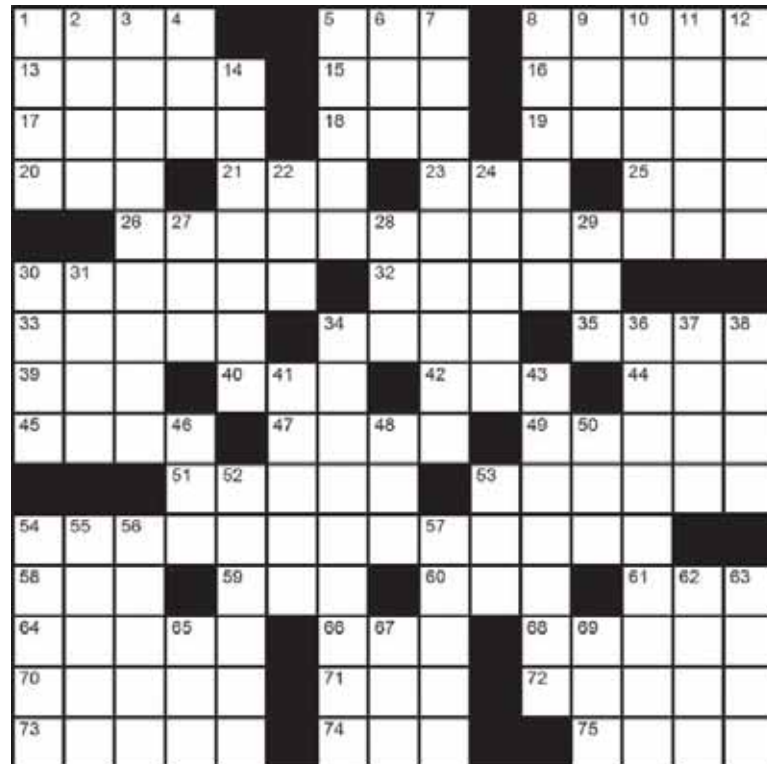
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1/2 tsp red pepper or cayenne
- 1 x 28 oz can tomatoes
- 1 x 14 oz can black beans, rinsed
- 5 eggs
- Small handful of cilantro, chopped
- 1/2 avocado, sliced
- 1/2 cup cheddar, grated

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Math instrument [abbr.]
5. Illuminated
8. 5th Dimension member Marilyn
13. Tropical greeting
15. Iron
16. Green spaces for homes
17. Particular parrot
18. Nourished
19. Fix that squeak once more
20. Pitcher's stat.
21. Boat's stern
23. Nero's 511
25. Key: French
26. Character in #14-Down: 2 wds.
30. Fashion designer Ms. Johnson
32. Tolerate
33. Bird-like
34. "Tres _"
35. High-five-to-high-five hit
39. Sleep state, commonly
40. Cardinals player's baseball cap letters
42. Actor's representative [abbr.]
44. Diminutive suffix
45. Was aware
47. Remorseful person
49. Britannica, e.g.
51. Not _ (Not so far)
53. Crowd reactions to corny jokes
54. Villains-in-white-armour in #14-Down
58. Left tap's meaning
59. Haunted house hooow!
60. Feminine suffix



61. Lobster _ Diavolo (Seafood dish with pasta)
64. Book's beginning, briefly
66. " _ _ Have to Say the Words?" by Bryan Adams
68. Science fiction being
70. Clay pigeon

- shooting
71. 'Ether' suffix
72. It's often served with tongs
73. Abrasive
74. Sanctions, short-style
75. Gladiator's 951

DOWN

1. Arrived

2. Banned orchard spray
3. When a TV show airs regionally: 2 wds.
4. Repeated-word dance
5. Former factory living spaces
6. Wrath
7. Classic toy from Santa: 2 wds.

8. Immeasurable
9. Flight simulators co. headquartered in Saint-Laurent, QC
10. _ _ Pot (Slow cooker)
11. Wearer of the black tutu in Swan Lake
12. Canadian doctor, the 'Father of Modern Medicine', William _

- (b.1849 - d.1919)
14. "Star Wars: The Force _" (2015)
22. Tina of "Sisters" (2015)
24. Type of fighter craft in #14-Down, _ _
27. _ _ _ Today (American newspaper)
28. Trombonist Mr. Winding
29. _ Miserables
30. Tree trunk topping
31. All square
34. Canadian band that formed in 1984: 2 wds.
36. Production company behind #14-Down
37. Kirk _ , "Superman" (1948) star
38. Bench press muscles, commonly
41. _ _ _ understand (Attempt at comprehending)
43. Nobel-winning Mother, and namesakes
46. Combat reason
48. Ike's WWII arena
50. Scand. land
52. Not lumpy or bumpy
53. Car's navigation aid, commonly
54. _ _ kebab
55. Toy truck brand
56. Furry mammal that can swim
57. Trompe l' _ (Visual illusions)
62. Authentic
63. "The King _ _" (1956)
65. Home addr.
67. Tree of acorns
69. Lake: French

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries March 21 - April 20

If you haven't done anything marvelous yet don't worry because there is still time — just. Make your move this weekend, certainly before the Sun changes signs on the 22nd.

♉ Taurus April 21 - May 21

Changes are coming, changes that will enable you to move in a new, exciting direction when the Sun moves in your favour early next week. Do only what your heart tells you to.

♊ Gemini May 22 - June 21

Geminis are supposed to be daring. Geminis are supposed to take risks. So what happened? Life is meant to be a great adventure. Make today the day when you re-discover your true nature again.

♋ Cancer June 22 - July 23

When the Sun moves into your opposite sign of Capricorn in a few days you'll be at the halfway point of your solar year. It's a good time to take stock of how far you've come.

♌ Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

This is no time to slow down. There is a lot to be done before the Sun leaves the most dynamic area of your chart on the 2nd. Creatively, and romantically, there is no limit to what you can accomplish.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Don't waste time and energy on senseless disputes with people you don't respect. Focus on more important matters between now and when the Sun changes signs next Tuesday.

♎ Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Your present course is taking you in the wrong direction and you're missing opportunities simply because you're too stubborn to admit it. There's still time to get back on track.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Stand up for your rights and don't let anyone tell you what you can and cannot do. What others don't seem to understand is that you cannot be bribed or pressured to go against your principles. Flattery, of course, is harder to defend against.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

The Sun remains in your sign a few more days, so make the most of it. Take every opportunity that comes your way and today can be special.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Recent weeks have been far from easy and there will be more challenges to come over the next few days. However, come Tuesday, when the Sun moves into your sign, things will start to get better in a big way.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

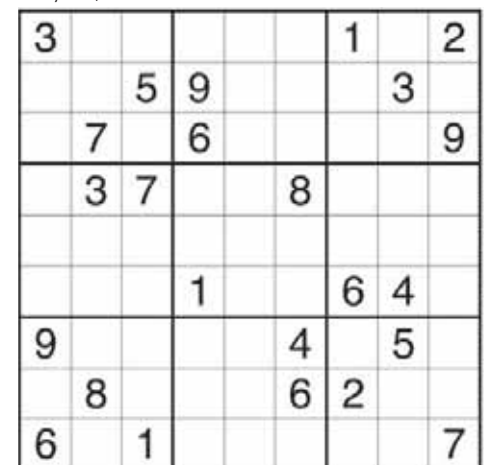
Steer clear of other people's fights and feuds — there is nothing you can gain from them. If you stick your nose in where it is not wanted you're inviting someone to take a poke at it!

♓ Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

Once again you're allowing yourself to be dragged into situations that are not good for you. Make an effort to put distance between you and those who would use you.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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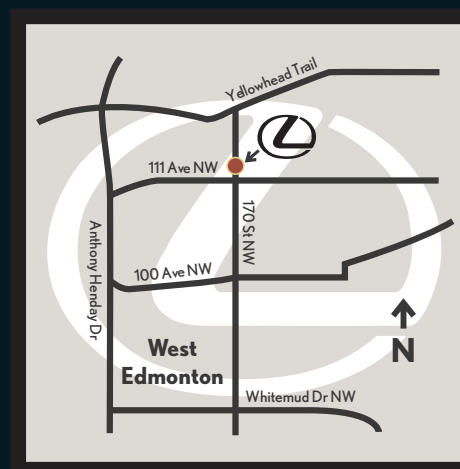
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